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VOL. 16 NO. 6 JUNE 1985
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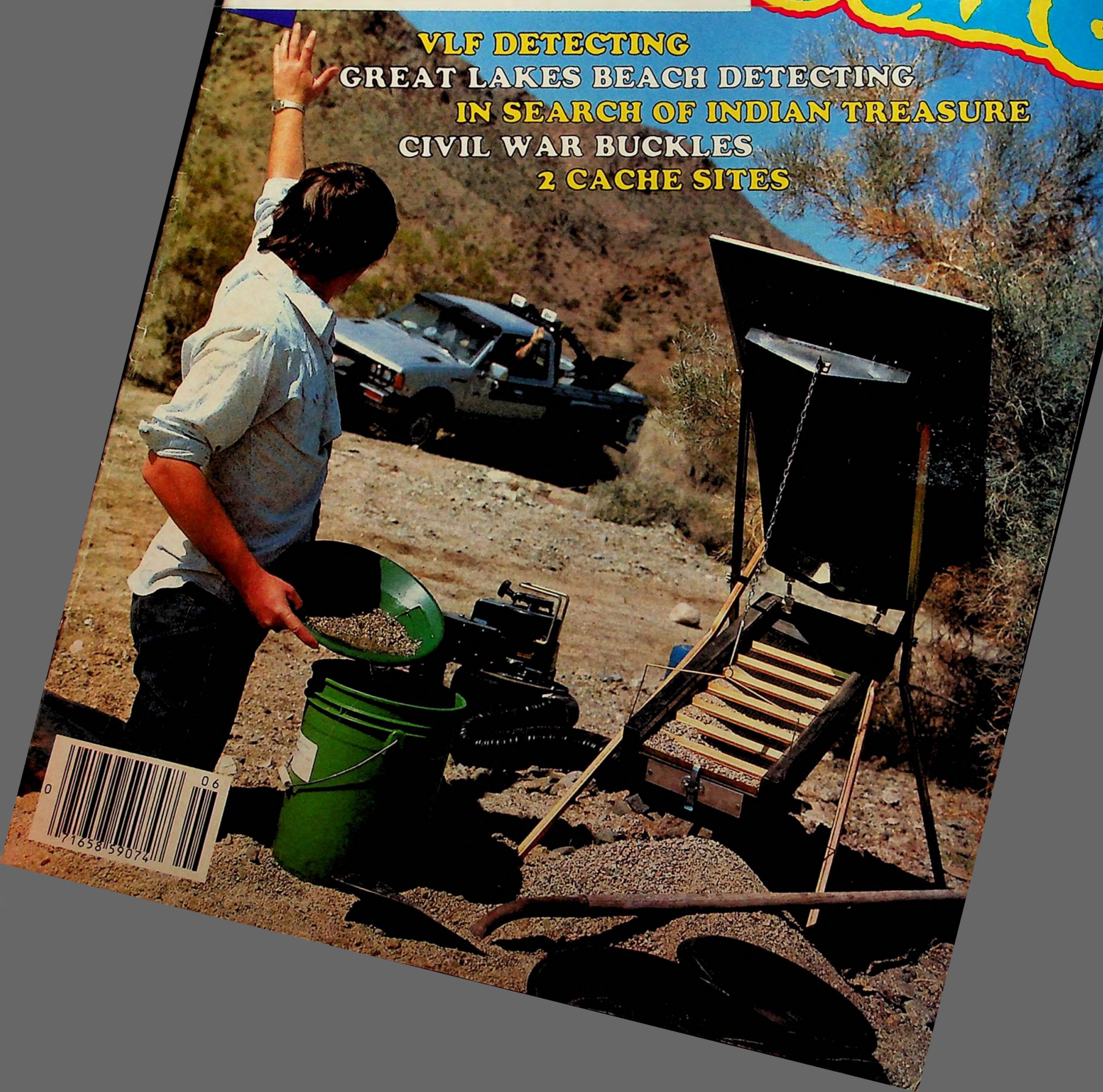

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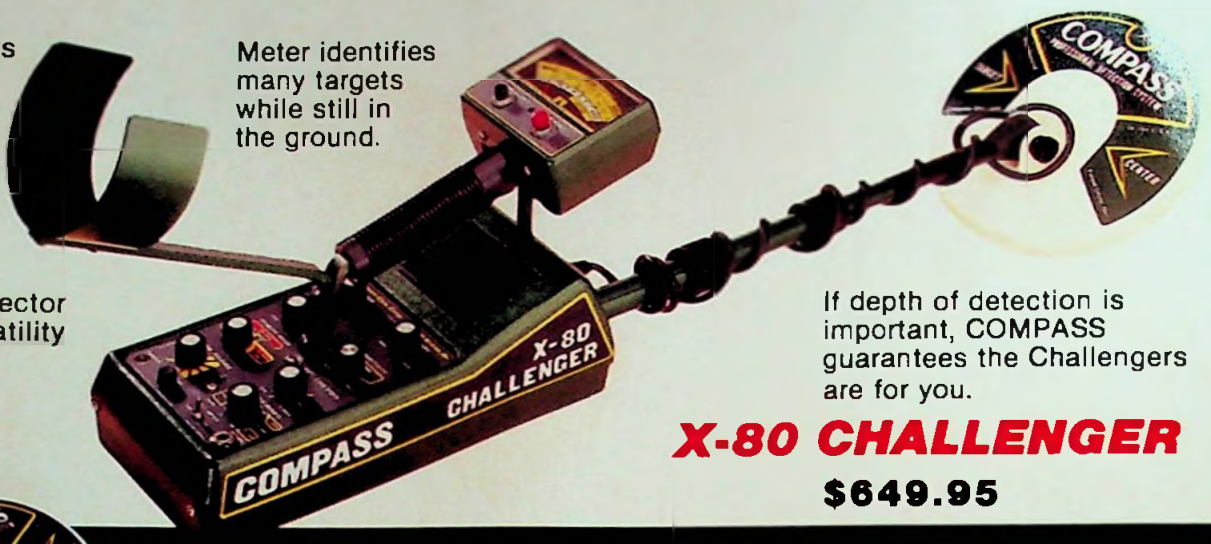

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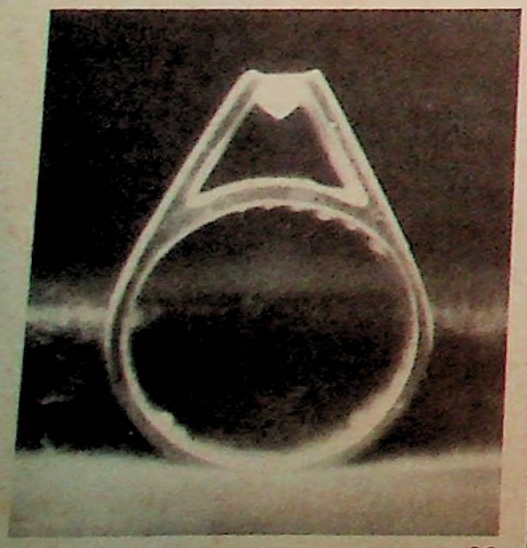
INSIDE

(ISSN 0049-4593)
VOL. 16 NO. 6
JUNE 1985

page 16

page 38



page 66

FEATURES

A TREASURE MINI-NOVEL—
PART I: THE FIRST CLUES 8
FLORIDA'S SHALLOW WATER TREASURES 16
RIVER BONANZA 30
EVALUATING CIVIL WAR BUCKLES 38
THE GOLD CACHES OF DARE'S FERRY 44
BUTTONMOLD'S TREASURE 48
A GUIDE TO VLF DETECTING 52
GREAT LAKES BEACH DETECTING 66

TESTS

KEENE'S NEW HOT-AIR DRY WASHER 32

DEPARTMENTS

THE EDITOR'S DESK 6
PONY EXPRESS LETTERS 12
THE Q & A DEPT. 14
DOODLEBUGGING 23
THE LOST LEDGE 24
TREASURE IN THE HEADLINES 26
CLUB NEWS & EVENTS 59
PEN PALS 63
CLASSIFIED ADS 64
TREASURE BOOK SHOP 70

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Astrid Stewart/Business Manager
Kathleen Arwick/Assistant Editor
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Contributing Editors
• **Roman Malach**
Ed Moody • **George Mroczkowski**
Richard Ray • **Tom Townsend**
Howard Duffy
• **James Seeley White**

Editorial Offices
6280 Adobe Road
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Advertising & Dealers
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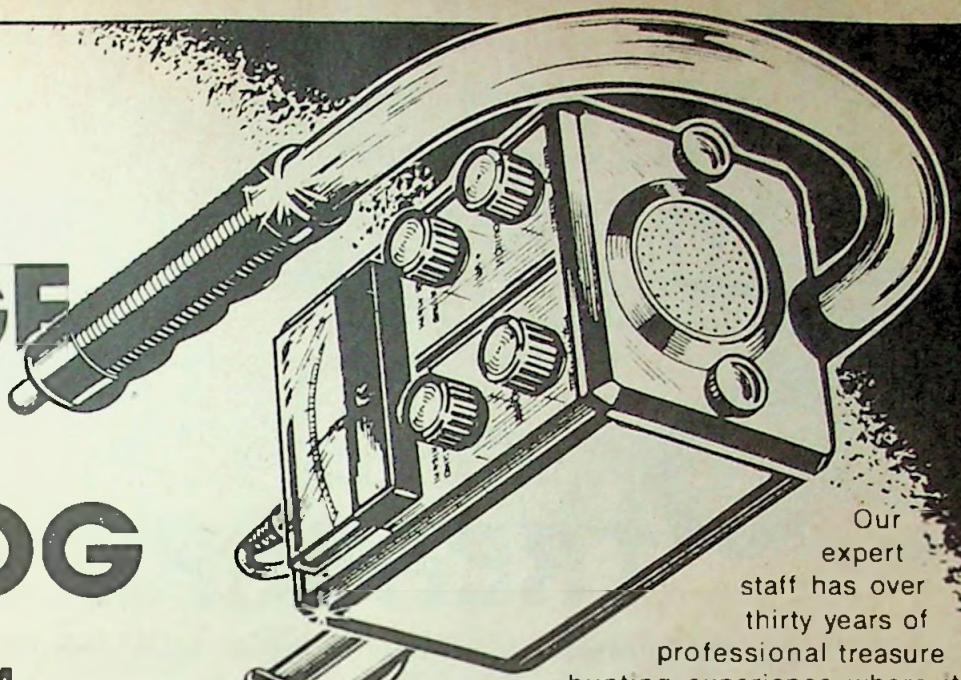

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CIRCLE NO. 8 ON READER SERVICE COUPON

the editor's desk

TREASURE SYMBOLS

This issue begins a mini-series which, come next November when all episodes have been published, most people will want to read a second time, in one sitting. At least that's been our experience with Enos B. Ring's story. Each time through is as exciting and instructive as the first, perhaps more so as one begins to digest the information and appreciate the realism of the ending. Who was Enos B. Ring? The following cover letter editor J.F.L. Childs included when he submitted Ring's manuscript provides a few details about this dedicated prospector.

"The following story was copied almost word for word from a carbon copy of an old manuscript given to me by Silvia M.A. Ring (now Paterson). Pencilled in the upper right-hand corner was the note 'Written by Enos Bolton Ring, probably in the 1920s.' No one seems to know what became of the original manuscript, which is unfortunate because there were some sketches and diagrams on it that were omitted from the copy.

"Sylvia Ring was a friend of my sister in high school. I met Enos B. Ring in Sylvia's home in South Pasadena, California, about 1930 or '31. Her father, Jonathan Ring, was an accomplished architect. He and Enos, who was his younger brother by two and a half years, were from Philadelphia, originally.

"Not much is known about Enos Ring's education except that he was an 'engineering draftsman' in New York City and, judging from his command of English grammar, well educated. In 1904, Enos went to Tucson, Arizona, with his mother, who had tuberculosis.

"When his mother died, around 1905-06, Ring left his job in New York and moved to Salt Lake City. There he took a job with the Salt Lake Short Line Railroad, with a boxcar for his office and living quarters. The railroad allowed him three months of vacation every summer, which he devoted to prospecting in Utah, Nevada, Idaho and possibly other states. He never married.

"Sylvia mentioned that her uncle had a 'mighty short fuse to his temper,' and that she never asked him many questions for that reason, although she loved to listen to stories of his travels. When Ring was six months away from retirement with a pension, the railroad said 'No' to his summer vacation plans. Ring flew into a rage, quit his job and went prospecting near Winnemucca, Nevada.

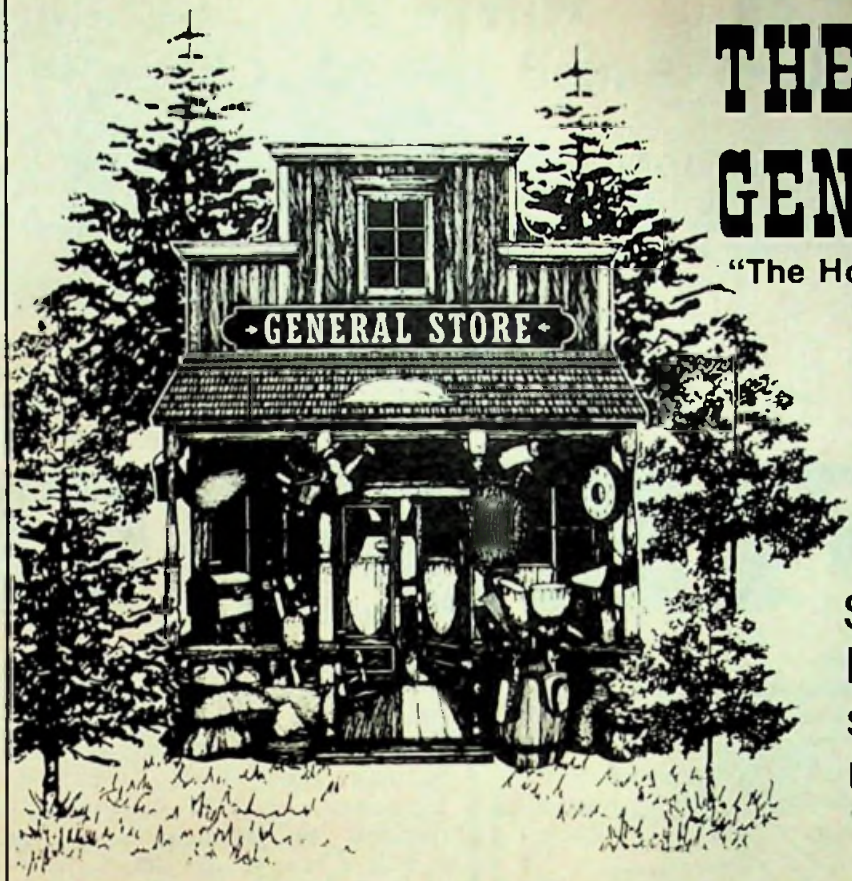
"Late in life he moved to Quartzite, Arizona, where he lived in a prospect hole in the side of a mountain with a tent flap over the entrance for shade. He often came to Los Angeles in the winter to earn his grubstake for the next season, and that is how I met him.

"Ring became ill in 1956-57, and a friend, Mr. Kuehn, took him to the hospital in Blythe, California, where his ailment was diagnosed as silicosis (the miner's disease from breathing rock dust). He died the same year and was buried in the Ft. Tyson cemetery, near there. When Sylvia and her husband visited her uncle's grave, they discovered that he was buried near Hadji Ali, the camel driver. Hadji Ali came to this country with the camels that the Army tried to introduce into the Southwestern desert, in 1856."

A long-time student of treasure hunting, J.F.L. Childs thought Ring's manuscript especially worthy of publication because of the information it contains on Indian and Spanish symbols, providing many new ones as well as additional interpretation of old ones. And herein, so he told us, lies Childs' main frustration with the crusty old prospector. Through his half-breed partner, Abe Kightlinger, Ring had a rare opportunity to derive what might have been the most complete catalog of such symbols along with a cohesive set of interpretations. Instead of learning from Abe, though, Ring spends most of his time scoffing at the fellow, coming away from the experience with only a smattering of his knowledge. It is a shame, but we can at least be thankful Enos took the time to write down some of what the old man taught him.

Many readers will no doubt want to extract and add Abe's information to their master list or standard reference on treasure symbols. For those who would like to start a list, the following are the books we know devoted to the subject. The newest, and a must for anyone, is Gale R. Rhoades **Waybill to Lost Spanish Mines and Treasures** (published in 1982 by Dream Garden Press, 1199 Iola Ave., Salt Lake City, UT 84104). Also excellent are Mary Carson's **Handbook of Treasure Signs and Symbols** (1980, Cache Press, Drawer 71, Deming, NM

(Continued on page 46)



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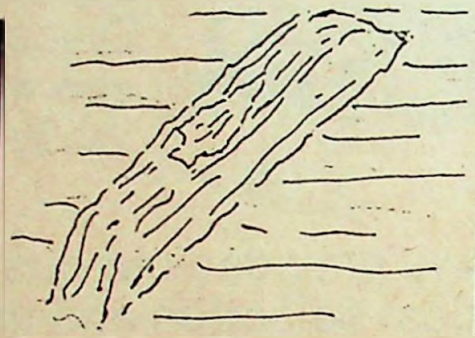
CIRCLE NO. 2 ON READER SERVICE COUPON

A TREASURE MINI-NOVEL

Written by Enos B. Ring
Edited by J.F.L. Childs

A FASCINATING ACCOUNT OF TWO PROSPECTORS IN SEARCH OF ANCIENT INDIAN TREASURE

PART I THE FIRST CL



SYMBOL A

Editor's Note: The following is the first episode of a six-part story that will run in consecutive magazines from this June issue through the November issue of **Treasure**. *Although called a "mini-novel," for want of a better term, there is nothing fictional about it. Never before published, it was written (probably in the 1920s) by the late Enos Bolton Ring, a railroad worker who used to spend his three-month summer vacations prospecting the West. During the summer described in this story, which takes place in southeast Idaho, he teamed up with Abe Kightlinger, a half-breed of German-Cherokee descent who had been schooled in the art of reading Indian and Spanish symbols. The results, which we think truly deserve the description "fascinating," readers will see for themselves. For more background details, see "The Editors Desk" in this issue.*

During the first month out, I had been camped in a monotonous, densely timbered rolling country on Warm River and had become thoroughly discouraged regarding its mineral possibilities and was about ready to move on when I received word of the . . .(the words here were omitted from Ring's manuscript but obviously referred to some disaster—Ed.). Coming like an unexpected thunderbolt, it blasted the high hopes of many months and put me in a desperate humor, so that I decided to head at once for the Big Hole country, a couple of hundred miles to the northwest in Montana, and to stake everything on the chance of finding placer, real gold.

Next day I moved northward about 12 miles, while it rained most of the day as it had done most of the time for the last month. I camped that night near a lumber camp where I found one dry spot just big enough to lay out my bed roll close against the trunk of a big pine with low hung branches. All around was cold soggy ground and dismal forest and swampy country. Next day, I bought a month's supply of grub and arranged it in the packs, and moved northerly over a soggy lumber road through forested swampy country. After fording a couple of rivers, I came at noon to a little clearing with some grass close to a railroad. I had stopped there to eat and let the horses graze a little, and had repacked and saddled and was about to move on when a little old man came down the tracks, stopped and said, "Hello, prospecting?" I answered, "Yes."

He said that he was a prospector too and had just come down from Rea's Pass, where he had been for a month helping a miner who had located a wonderful native copper-silver deposit. He said he was broke, but if I would go up there with him and furnish the grub, he could show me ground as good as the other fellow's which we could stake claims on. He talked sensibly, and (especially in my desperate frame of mind) I was tempted to go with him. But when I told him that I had my mind set on the Big Hole and only intended to glance over Mt. Sawtelle (25 miles west of Rea's Pass) a little on the way, he then suggested that we spend a few days on Sawtelle together, and if it did not look good, then we could go to Rea's Pass. Thinks I, "Damn it, this old bird may really have seen something good at Rea's Pass and it won't take long to look into it." So, what the hell's the difference. So I said, "All right," and we headed for Sawtelle, just a few minutes after first seeing each other, with him, an unknown quantity, trotting on foot alongside my horses.

By way of conversing a little, he volunteered the information that he was a half-breed Cherokee Indian, name of Abe Kightlinger, his mother a squaw and his father German, from Calico Rock, Arkansas. He looked and talked like a white man, however, although I wasn't caring much what he was, if he could find gold. While talking a good deal about the fine proposition at Rea's Pass,

Old Abe is shown here drilling the first hole alongside the "table rock"—to the left is the sapling fir that had been "topped" at 12 feet.

,UES

he mentioned seeing "pictures of kings" painted in silver and gold up there on some big trees and something about their meaning, "silver and gold ore." I was noncommittal but sort of thinking "My God, what kind of a nut have I gotten hold of. But what's the difference, let him rave, he seems normal most of the time." And, he soon returned to ordinary subjects and was reasonably intelligent, although not well educated. A few miles farther, we passed Trude Post Office, a little tourist resort on a main highway, and a couple of miles beyond, we camped in the almost virgin solitude of a little meadow in the forest at the base of Sawtelle.

Weeks afterward, when we were immersed in a weird atmosphere of treasure hunting and shadowy Indians, it was odd to think of that prosaic highway only a few miles away with its hordes of bored tourists streaking along, absolutely oblivious to any thought of the mysteries and wildness so close to them. And yet one could take most any of them just a few hundred feet away from that highway, turn them around a couple of times, and they would be hopelessly lost in that dense growth of small pines that all look alike.

Old Abe had nothing but the clothes on his back, and I had told him right at the start that I could not spare any blankets, but he cheerfully insisted that he could sleep on the ground by the fire at night. However, as it began to rain while we were making this first camp, I could not think of letting him lie like a dog by the fire all night. So, with my blankets, I made up a bed for two in the pup tent. Although it was cold sleeping for the first week, we continued sleeping together for the rest of the trip without any great inconvenience except that, because he was a light sleeper, my **snoring** bothered him a great deal. When we turned in this first night, and for many nights afterward, he took our hand axe to bed with him. He expressed considerable fear that some bear might bother us during the night. I wondered fearfully if he figured on chopping me up during the night, but still being in a "don't give a damn" humor, I slept like a log. For awhile I did not like this axe stunt a bit, but just as with handling dynamite, one quits worrying about the danger after finding that nothing happens the first few times. Also, I soon figured that he wanted the axe for protection against Indians after he said they had tried to get him a couple of times in Arkansas for

having dug into their old mines.

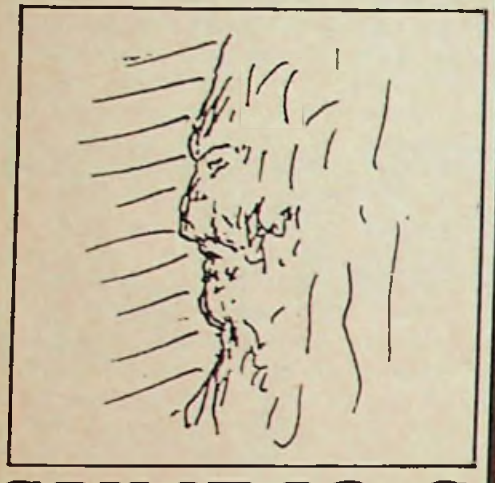
Early next morning, he called attention to a flat stone about 2 inches by 12 inches sticking about 6 inches above the ground near our tent as if set on edge, with one corner beveled off and with what looked like a poorly carved arrowhead on the bevel (see Symbol A).

He also called attention to a nearby pine that had been "topped" or broken off about 12 feet up, many years before, so that it had a bushy top. These were Indian signs he said, meaning that mineral would be found by digging to a depth of 12 feet at a point determined by projecting in line and in the plane of the arrowhead, until the line hit the ground. That stone did strike me as a trifle peculiar. One seldom finds one set up on edge that way. But the arrowhead was indistinct and might be caused by natural spalling of the rock. So, I refused to show much interest in it and proposed that we explore the mountain for a couple of days from this camp. But the first day we only got a little way from this camp because the old man was busy finding more Indian signs and trying to show them to me. But as I was very skeptical and not much impressed by the questionable marks he showed me, and since there seemed to be no indications of mineral, I was considerably annoyed at wasting time on any attempt to find or decipher a lot of damn fool **natural** marks.

Next day we went several miles up one canyon and back down another. The old man called attention to a few more signs on the way up, such as forked pine trees and bent trees which he said were split and bent when young by the Indians to mark trails to certain places, which did sound possible. But, that a dozen small rocks apparently **placed** in a circle on the steep side of a creek bank sould be a Spanish mark for an ore vein or that a shallow hole (see Symbol B) the size of half a walnut in a boulder should be a Spanish "pickmark," meaning ore nearby, sounded altogether too fantastic and improbable. Nature could easily make such marks.

Without a pulley, we had to dig beneath the "table rock" Spanish style, with an incline, using cross braces to hold dangerously loose boulders.

A TREASURE MINI-NOVEL



SYMBOL C

Most of the symbols were so indistinct they could be mistaken for natural markings and apparently depended on a slanting light to create shadows to delineate the picture.

Then we dropped into the next canyon and started back down the mountain. We saw our first bear track there, big and fresh on a snow bank. The rock outcrops began to look a little more promising for mineral, and a little farther down we came to a very charming section of canyon with big fir trees and huge boulders intermingled. Here the old man pointed out a big fir with a peculiar whitish color **on one side**, for 15 feet up. All the Douglas firs I had ever noted previously were just a dull gray all over their trunks. Then, standing back about 20 feet, I could see (as he pointed it out) a sort of impressionistic and yet quite distinct bearded face wearing a crown and occupying about 4 feet in height on this whitened side of the tree.

This was a "king, painted in silver," such as he had mentioned seeing at Rea's Pass. I now began to think that perhaps the old man wasn't so crazy after all, because I or any other white man would have passed by that tree a million times without noticing any face. And yet, when one went close to it, one could not see a face or any indication of carving on the peculiar whitish bark, which might not be a natural white growth. The old man said this was Spanish, meaning **very rich silver** ore nearby, to be located by projecting a level line in the direction the face was gazing. This line would strike another "marked" tree or rock, which second mark would lead to a third, and so on from mark to mark, perhaps crossing and doubling back and forth to a **final** mark, which might be close to or far from the original tree. Later on, the old man ran one of these lines for me, from point to point for some distance, and some of the marks seemed indisputable.

DUE TO ALL THE SYMBOLS, THE OLD MAN FIGURED THERE WAS A CACHE DIRECTLY UNDER THE SNAKE'S TAIL ON THE "TABLE ROCK"

We also saw a couple of other big trees nearby with faces in profile, this time. One was on a tree "painted yellow" on one side, a sort of **golden orange brown**. This meant **gold**, of course. Why in hell **these** Douglas firs, normally a dull gray tree, should here show white sides on some, yellow on others, and gray all over on others is a tough question.

Next the old man spotted a devilishly sinister 3-foot full front face of an Indian on an 8-foot boulder nearby, gazing downward to about the spot where we later dug our second shaft. During part of the day, and from a distance, this face was as distinct as my sketch (see Symbol C) and unquestionably an Indian's features, really malignant as hell. Most of these rock pictures seem to be a kind of clever, shallow, bas-relief, no indication of which can be seen close up, and apparently dependent on a **slanting** morning or afternoon light to throw slight shadows across the uneven surface to delineate the picture. Few pictures could be seen in a light striking the rocks directly at right angles. This face was an "Indian's mark," meaning a guard, a "threatening" guard over the undergound treasure.

Next we looked over a big flat rock, 8 feet by 12 feet by 4 feet high (later called "table rock"), and he pointed out many marks (**marks** rather than pictures) that could be seen when **close**, which appeared to be more in the nature of shallow groovings. Most of the "groove" marks are only a few inches in dimensions. There was a square, a diamond, a horse shoe (direction to a mine), a mule shoe (to a smelter or bullion), and a snake many feet long, its tail lying over an old mine or cache (meaning under this rock). Also, a life size picture of a bear with outspread arms (Indian victory). The old man insisted that **every** mark and picture made by Spaniards and Indians had a

SYMBOL D

decided meaning, that the Indians especially had not the slightest idea of making a mark for amusement.

By this time I was getting interested in his "dope," and the old man seemed satisfied from what we had seen during just one hour's inspection that we had run across the focus of an old Spanish mining district. So, next day we moved camp up the mountain about three miles to this

spot, which was ideal for camping with a small stream and plenty of wood, and open parks farther up where grass was luxuriant for grazing the horses. For a quarter mile along one side of the canyon, big trees and rocks were scattered picturesquely on a steep grassy slope rising back of camp to a height of several hundred feet. The opposite side was not very steep but was densely timbered with small pine almost to the edge of the stream. A beautiful spot, and yet it grew to have a depressing, haunting aspect later on when we found there were so damned many pictures everywhere, on all the boulders and on many trees. There were probably **hundreds** of pictures within a quarter mile. Many, perhaps the majority, were subject to doubt, especially faces, as it is so easy for **natural** markings to cause the semblance of a profile or front face. But, the fact that **some** of the markings were unquestionable lent color to all of them.

Anyway, the old man nosed around for awhile and then decided that an old mine entrance (now back-filled and concealed) had existed at one edge of the "table rock" and that there was a cache directly under the snake's tail on this rock at a depth of 12 feet (12 feet because that was a standard of measure for the Spanish and Indians in Arkansas). As if to confirm this, there was a small pine alongside the "table rock" that was topped at 12 feet. And to make one pause a little, there was a 2-inch sapling fir, right where we dug, that had been broken off 12 feet up not more than a year or so previous to our advent. By now the old man had become convinced that this canyon was so important to the Indians that they would have it watched constantly. I contended, however, that since they were penned up on Indian reservations (the nearest one 100 miles away) that the **best** they could do would be to send out a scout for a **short period** each summer. Still, it gave one a queer feeling to see that recently topped sapling and also the fresh blaze on another nearby tree, that was apparently made about the same time (a blaze so high above the ground that it would hardly be made by a ranger or sheepherder). By this time, I was beginning to feel that the old man was entitled to take an axe to bed at night.

So, we began digging and almost at grass roots dug out a flat stone, approximately 1 inch thick by 8 inches square, that had a rude profile on one edge (see Symbol D). Nothing was peculiar about such a stone itself, **but**, while locating this spot to dig, one of the "pointers" the old man had found was an **identical** flat stone **leaned up against** a big boulder 50 feet away, and so placed that the similar profile on it pointed in a direct line to where we dug. And, these two stones were almost **identical** in size and shape. Laugh that off. Later on, I found another 12-inch square flat stone with a very good human profile on one edge, leaned up against the **downhill** side of a big boulder, a couple of hundred feet farther up the hill. Flat stones just don't leave **themselves** against a boulder in such a position.

The boulder against which the old man found the pointer stone was covered with pictures, and he figured that this boulder was a "key" to the old mine entrance we were digging for. If so, we would find an occasional small stone as we dug down, and on each one of these would be a small replica of some one of the pictures on the "key" rock. That is, in back-filling the old mine entrance, the Indians would throw in enough stones with pictures on them to duplicate every picture on the "key" rock, so that an Indian of a later generation, when authorized to dig there, would know when he found these small pictures that he had not mistaken the spot.

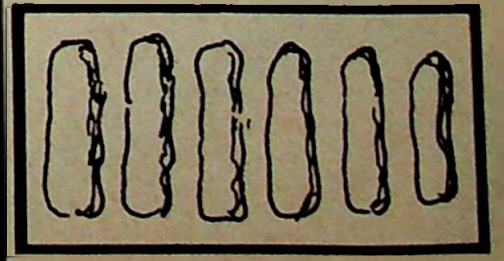
Unbelievable rot, perhaps, but as we dug down through what appeared to be a **natural** ancient bouldery riverbed, the old man would examine the underside (the **clean** side) of hundreds of stones and often found what **appeared** to be a replica. For instance, one picture on the "key" rock was a crude **anchor**, a foot across with three links on the haft (a Spanish sign meaning men who came on ships), and over 10 feet underground we found a 2-foot boulder with almost undeniably the same anchor, 2 inches across. Peculiar.

And toward the last, when turning over a fair-sized stone 15 feet underground (and almost **vertically** under the **snake's tail** on the "table"), I found six small flat stones (see Symbol E) stuck to a large stone with clay. Damned peculiar for **nature** to place stones like that, wasn't it? That the snake's rattles were about life-size meant we were almost to our objective.

For three weeks we slaved on this hole, and because we had no pulley for a winch, we had to go at it Spanish style, with an **incline**, which meant carrying 200 to 300 buckets full of dirt, per day. Fortunately, most of it was pick and shovel work, although we had to shoot a few boulders (which reminds me that there was a picture of a 2-foot pick and shovel on the "key" rock, meaning that the mine could be broken into with a pick and shovel. The old man, although only my size, could pack out rocks weighing up to 200 pounds, and he sure did his share of the work.

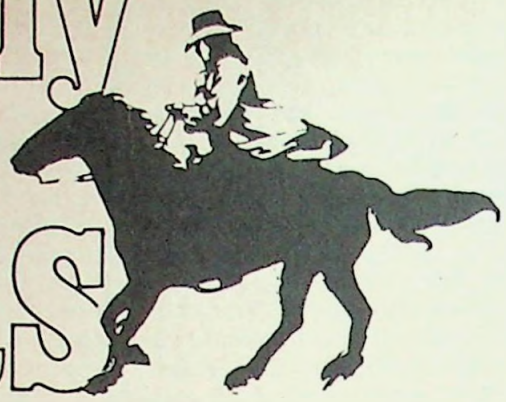
Just below the "rattles" we struck what appeared to be bedrock, a loose shaley or thin-layered granular rock (rhyolite), just a little too tough to pry up with a pick, so we had to start blasting. The old man insisted that it was not natural bedrock but a "roof" laid in by the Indians over the mine cavity to support the back-fill, and that he had previously **seen** such construction in old Spanish mine workings in Arkansas, consisting of flat rocks interlaced and slightly arched, spanning long chambers and capable of holding up surprisingly large loads when back-filled above. When pounded on, this rock in the bottom of our hole did actually sound hollow as a drum, so that I half believed there was a chamber below, especially as quite a musty smell was perceptible. And now we tied a rope to a tree and kept it dangling into the hole—in case the "roof" should suddenly give way while

(Continued on page 47)



SYMBOL E

pony express LETTERS



MISSOURI WRECKS

Since I live in Missouri and my home overlooks the Missouri River, I would like to obtain a list of shipwrecks in my state similar to that Bob Rybolt provided in his article on Nebraska wrecks in the March 1985 **Treasure**. I believe I have located the site of one wreck and would like information on it in particular.

Paul Sorden
St. Charles, Missouri

Paul,

You can obtain this information from the State Historical Society of Missouri, 1020 Lowry St., Columbia, MO 65201; and possibly additional details from the Missouri Historical Society, Jefferson Memorial-Forest Park, St. Louis, MO 63112.

The National Archives (8th & Pennsylvania Avenue N.W., Washington, DC 20408) also holds records relating to shipwrecks that occurred during the period 1875-1940. However, it makes limited searches for documents only if you can provide the name of the ship and the date and place of the disaster, but this may be useful to you in further pinpointing a ship. Best of luck.

—Ed.

PROHIBITED GOLD RECOVERY

I wanted to give you some information about a story you ran, on page 30 of the February 1985 issue, concerning the lost gold of the Sierra Anchas in Arizona.

Two years ago, I went into that country especially to look for this particular vein. It is there, but there is no sense in getting excited about it because it lies in the Wilderness Area, where federal law prohibits all mining.

I found all that remains of the old cabin site (which is very little) and also the ridge, about a quarter mile away, which has a quartz vein laced with gold. There's no chance of mining the lode secretly, for a person would soon be found out, and thrown in the slammer. Ending in such disappointment, it sounds like a lot of treasure stories, doesn't it? In any case, this business is a lot of fun, even though there are an awful lot of set backs that go along with it. I guess that is what adds some of the excitement to it.

Alec
Vancouver, Washington

MR. DRY

I found this copper coin about five inches down in an old yard. On the front, besides an odd looking dude carrying a smoking rifle and having what looks like a skull for a face, there are the words "VOTE DRY I LOSE," "TAIL," and "ISSUED BY THE CRUSADERS." The back shows a horseshoe and a "5¢" mug of beer, around which are the words "GOOD LUCK COIN," "HEAD," "BETTER TIMES" and "VOTE WET I WIN." Any help as to origin and value would be appreciated.

Alvin E. Adams
Lodi, California

Alvin,

Your find, an Anti-Prohibition medal made around 1930 and worth about $5 to $10, features none other than the once-famous Mr. Dry. Created by Pulitzer Prize winning cartoonist Rollin Kirby, Mr. Dry epitomizes how some people viewed proponents of Prohibition—dictatorial, humorless and, decked out in clothes of a hundred years before, old-fashioned. Crusaders for repeal used him on a variety of political give-aways from the 1920s to the early '30s, and your medal is frequently displayed in books as one of the more interesting examples, due to its various symbols and "wry" humor.

—Ed.

FORT SOURCES

I enjoyed the article on West Virginia forts in the last issue but would like to know what references the author used when researching the story.

Elfie Falkenberg
Pittsburg, Pennsylvania

Elfie,

We contacted the author, Michael Paul Henson, and he sent us the following list of source material: **West Virginia Archives and History**, *published in 1906 (this was the primary source);* **West Virginia—A Guide to the Mountain State**, *authored in 1941 by the Writers Program;* **West Virginia Place Names**, *Hamil Kenny;* **The Monongalia Story**, *Earl L. Gore;* **Border Settlers of Northwestern Virginia**, *Lucullus V. McWharther;* **Winning of the West**, *Theodore Roosevelt; and* **History of the Early Settlements and Indian Wars of Western Virginia**, *De Hass.*

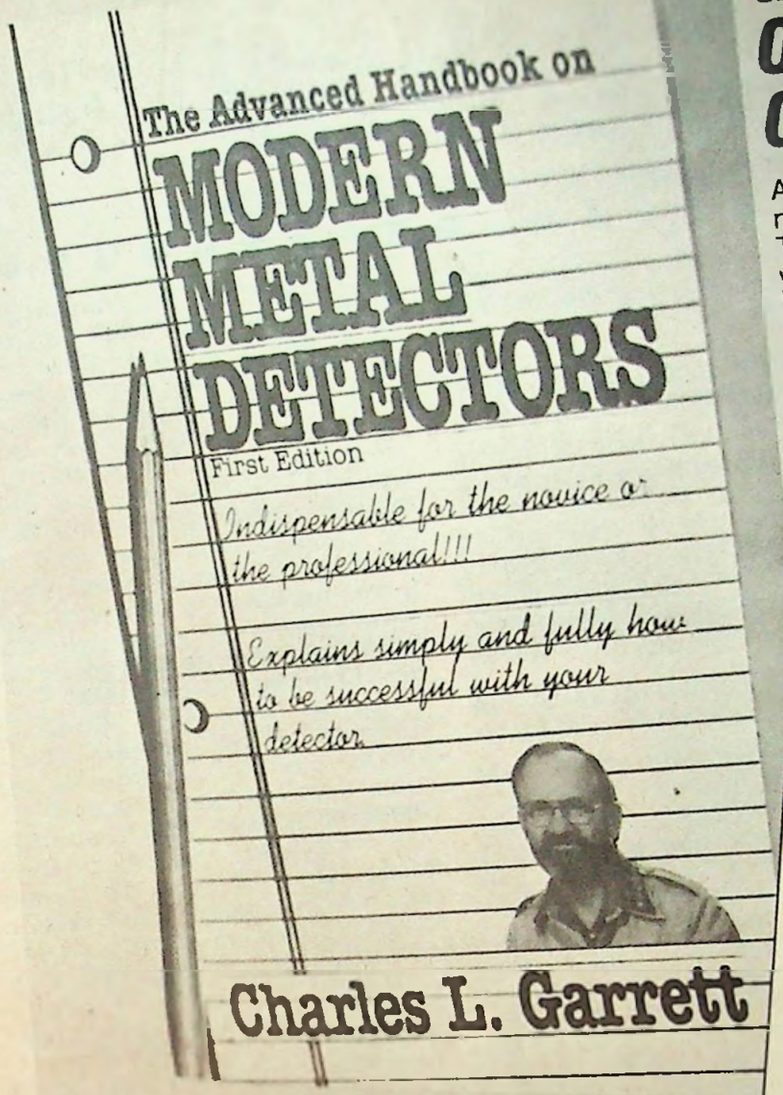
—Ed.

GUIDE TO OLD MAPS

I am having trouble finding information and maps of an early 1900s Army camp once existing in my area. About 1,000 acres in size, it was known at various times as both Camp Styx and Camp Moore. It's now completely overgrown with woods, with only a water tank remaining, and I would like to find the best places to look for relics and coins.

Michael McDonald
W. Columbia,, South Carolina

(Continued on page 46)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Charles L. Garrett

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THE Q&A dept.

By Roy W. Roush

HAVE A QUESTION? LET ROY HAVE A CRACK AT IT.
SEND IT TO: TREASURE Q. & A. DEPT., 6280 ADOBE ROAD, 29 PALMS, CA 92277

NUGGET HUNTING

Q What mode is best to use for nugget hunting - VLF normal or VLF discrimination? I've read some articles and brochures on this subject and have become confused because some say to use one, and some say to use the other. Could it be that it is better to use one mode on some detectors and the other mode on others? If so, why?

D. HUMPHREY
Victorville, California

A *It's more a preference of mode characteristics than differences in detectors, meaning that if someone suggests using VLF normal mode for nugget hunting with one detector, he or she also is suggesting using that mode for all other detectors.*

I would normally recommend using the VLF normal mode as first choice, but if you find too many nails and bits of junk iron, then switch to VLF discrimination mode to reject those items. Also, you will notice a stronger signal from nuggets using the discrimination mode.

TREASURE SITES NEAR MERCED, CALIFORNIA

Q I just got a metal detector, and I would like to know places where I can go to search, especially around Merced County. What can you tell me about lost treasures in my area? I will appreciate your answer.

SANTIAGO UVINA
Merced, California

A *Since Merced is near the old California goldfields, there are many lost treasures in the area.*

Treasure hunters have searched outside the town of Hornitos for the treasure buried in 1852 by the famed Mexican bandit, Joaquin Murieta, and his gang. He was known as the "Robin Hood of El Dorado," and set out to avenge the wrongs done to the Spanish Californians by the Yankee gold seekers. Murieta and his gang supposedly hid loot they took from the Americans at many locations throughout central and southern California (the latter sites are mostly in Ventura County). In 1853, he and other members of his gang were killed by a posse. His head and the hand of "Three-Fingered Jack" were pickled in alcohol and displayed for years in San Francisco until destroyed by the San Francisco fire in 1906.

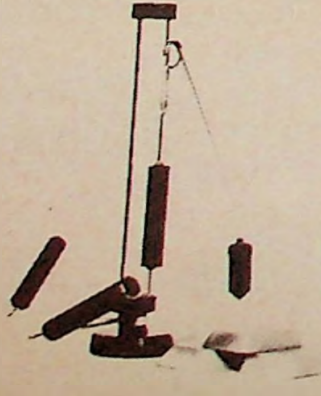
During the Gold Rush, a German miner buried about $10,000 worth of gold that he had mined on his claim located on Sherlock Creek, which empties into the Merced River, near Bagby. One night, as he started back to his claim after getting some supplies at a store on the Merced River, he drowned in a rain-swollen creek. Friends searched for his gold, but without success.

Another incident due to a flooded stream occurred on December 12, 1851, when J.F. Marr, the Mariposa County Treasurer, was drowned while trying to cross the stream on horseback. Records indicated that near Agua Fria he had hidden for safekeeping about $15,000 worth of $50 gold slugs made by the Mount Ophir Mint from gold he had collected from the miners. Little is left today to mark the site of Agua Fria, which was then the Mariposa County seat, and some

(Continued on page 43)

FIND GOLD & SILVER TREASURES . . .

Precious mineral deposits, oil, etc.



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WHAT IS A PROTON MAGNETOMETER?

COUNT THE NUMBER OF IRON ARTIFACTS FEATURED IN ANY TREASURE MAGAZINE. THEN RECALL THE OTHER LITTLE #NITEMS IN THESE MAGAZINES #HICH COVER RECENT NE#S REPORTS DESCRIBING LAND AND MARINE RECOVERY OF CANNONS, SHIPS, RIFLES, STRONG BOXES... AL#AYS SCANT ON DETAILS, FOR GOOD REASON, THESE STORIES MAKE ONE #ONDER HO# MUCH MORE IS FOUND AND NOT REPORTED. HERE USUALLY A MAGNETOMETER IS THE MAIN #EAPONRY #ITH KNO#LEDGEABLE PROS. SONAR CAN SOMETIMES HELP IN MARINE SEARCHES BY GIVING THE SEARCH OBJECT'S SHAPE ONCE A MAG HAS LOCATED AND PINPOINTED IT AND DETERMINED #EIGHT AND DEPTH (BELOW SEDIMENT SOMETIMES).

CONSIDERING ALL DETECTING TECHNI#UES INCLUDING ELECTROMAGNETIC INDUCTIVE (METAL DETECTORS), 2-BOX CONNECTED AND SEPARATED, LARGE FIXED HIGH POWER LOOPS AND STRAIGHT #IRES); BURIED ELECTRODE RESISTIVITY; GRAVITY; SONAR; SUB-SURFACE RADAR; SEISMIC; "PARTICLE SNIFFING"; RADIATION COUNTING, ONE CONCLUDES THAT THE HIGH PERFORMANCE MAG STANDS ALONE AS AN INSTRUMENT THAT #ILL DETECT A GI#EN #EIGHT FERROUS SEARCH OBJECT MANY TIMES FARTHER A#AY THAN ANY OTHER DETECTOR. A MAG #ILL NOT BE CONFU#DED NEARLY SO MUCH AS OTHER DETECTORS BY NATURALLY OCCURRING OR MANMADE ITEMS SUCH AS ALUMINUM, NOR BY GROUND STRATA, MOISTURE, SPEEDS OF SOUND OR MICRO#AVE PROPAGATION VERSUS IMAGE DISTORTION, RESISTIVITY VARIATIONS, INVISIBILITY OF SMALL OBJECTS TO LONG SONAR OR RADAR #AVELENGTHS... A MAG #ILL DETECT OTHER MAGNETIC MATERIALS LIKE OLD CAMPFIRE SITES AND FIRED POTTERY. RECALL THAT ALMOST AL#AYS INDIANS HID THEIR TREASURES IN FIRED POTTERY. SINCE THE MAG IS THE ONLY SEARCH INSTRUMENT NOT REQUIRED TO SEND ENERGY OUT TO GET A SIGNAL BACK FROM THE SEARCH OBJECT, IT #ILL DETECT AT DISTANCES RANGING UP TO SE#ERAL THOUSANDS OF FEET AND IN ALL DIRECTIONS, IN A "BALL". HO#EVER, IF THERE IS MAGNETITE AROUND, NO INSTRUMENT MADE BY MAN CAN "DISCRIMINATE IRON FROM IRON", THAT IS, TELL AN IRON ROCK FROM AN IRON RIFLE. FINALLY, THERE IS NO NATURALLY OCCURRING OR MANMADE MATERIAL #HICH CAN BLOCK THE MAGNETIC SIGNATURE OF A FERROUS OBJECT.

High performance mags have long been successful at locating iron and steel artifacts and placer gold paystreaks at distances far greater than other detectors. LIEBHAZET is the first very low priced, very high performance mag since it is the first to employ SECOND DIFFERENTIAL MAGNETOMETRY...and it can be used for land or marine searches...and the marine searcher can employ onboard or towed sensors - FIRST!

Magnetometer thinking is different from metal detector thinking. For instance, with mags you look first for iron or steel to determine where man has been in this or that spread out area, an area whose square miles and depths could never be searched with a metal detector. Then having pinpointed and retrieved your iron artifact, you pull out your metal detector to scan the immediate area for non-ferrous, possibly precious artifacts. A mag will open enormous new areas for metal detectors on land and in water.

YET IN ANY GROUP OF 5 TO 50 TH'ERS FANNING OUT INTO THE #ILDERNESS OF STRONGBOX BURIAL SITES, VERY DEEP BOTTLE DUMP SITES, LOST MINE SITES, GHOST TOWNS...YOU #ILL SCARCELY EVER FIND A MAGNETOMETER. STILL THERE'S A SMALL, FOR#ARD-THINKING GROUP #HO #UIETLY SEARCH #ITH MAGS. OUR CUSTOMERS ARE FINDING THINGS THAT THEY EXCITEDLY REFORT TO US ONLY IN THE VAGUEST TERMS USUALLY. #HEN THIS INVENTOR AT M. L. DALTON RESEARCH TALKS #ITH THE OUTSIDE #ORLD OF LIEBHAZET OWNERS, A LITTLE OVER HALF THE TIME THE SEARCHERS SAY THEY #ISH THEY COULD TELL ME #HAT THEY'VE FOUND #ITH THE MAG. THEN THE ONES #HO CAN'T KEEP THEIR MOUTHS SHUT COME TO OUR ATTENTION BECAUSE THEY'RE IN LAW SUITS #ITH PARTNERS, LAND O#NERS OR BUREAUCHATS. ANOTHER REASON FOR THE MYSTERY SURROUNDING MAGS IS THAT BEFORE LIEBHAZET THE SECOND DIFFERENTIAL MAGNETOMETER™, A HIGH PERFORMANCE MAG #AS A MULTI TENS OF THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS INSTRUMENT, SOMETIMES $100,000+. UNLIKE LIEBHAZET #HICH IS A 2 SENSOR-LOCATION MAG, THESE 1 SENSOR-LOCATION MAGS GIVE MUCH ERRORS IF THERE IS ANY ELECTROMAGNETIC NOISE AND #HEN FRE#UENTLY OCCURRING, UPPER ATMOSPHERE, MAGNETIC STORMS SHUT DOWN THE SEARCH SOMETIMES FOR DAYS. "HIGH PERFORMANCE" DOES NOT MEAN DIFFICULT, HO#EVER. LIEBHAZET HAS COME TO BE NO MORE DIFFICULT TO OPERATE THAN A METAL DETECTOR IN ITS 7 YEAR LIMITED PLACEMENT PHASE #HILE IN THE HANDS OF "FRIENDLY EXPERTS".

Inroads detection distances are made possible because a mag is not required to send energy out to get energy back from the search object. This requirement severely limits the range of metal detectors, sonar and radar which have the additional disadvantage of being directional, while a mag detects in all directions - in a "ball".

NO# THOSE OF YOU #HO ARE NOT JUST ARTIFACT HUNTERS, BUT #HO ARE PREPARED TO SHOULDER THE "CURSE" OF VAST #EALTH, READ THE FOLLO#ING FROM THE COLORADO SCHOOL OF MINES QUARTERLY, VOLUME 24, NUMBER 1 (MY LOWER BACK DOES NOT ALLO# ME TO GOLD PROSPECT, AND THIS #AY THIS OPPORTUNITY HAS SAT THERE, UNNOTICED BY ALL UNTIL THE LAST FE# MONTHS MAKES ME SHOUT):

"RECENTLY ANOTHER TYPE OF MAGNETIC PROSPECTING HAS BECOME #UITE IMPORTANT. THIS IS THE LOCATION OF NOBLE MINERALS, ESPECIALLY GOLD, IN RIVER CHANNELS. THE PHYSICAL REASON #HY SUCH CONCENTRATIONS CAN BE DETECTED IS THAT THEY ARE USUALLY ASSOCIATED #ITH CONCENTRATIONS OF HEAVY MAGNETITE. IN SOME PLACES THE AGREEMENT OF MAGNETIC ANOMOLY AND THE MINERAL CONTENT IS SO CONSIDERABLE THAT NUMERICALLY CERTAIN ANOMOLIES ARE DIRECTLY PROPORTIONAL TO CERTAIN PAY VALUES OF THE SAND PER CUBIC YARD."

Stream action "vibrates" dense objects like heavy magnetite, iron tools, and finally gold (in order of density) into select locations called "paystreaks". A mag will locate the deeper paystreaks missed by metal detectors as well as placer gold in the more lucrative, prehistoric streambeds.

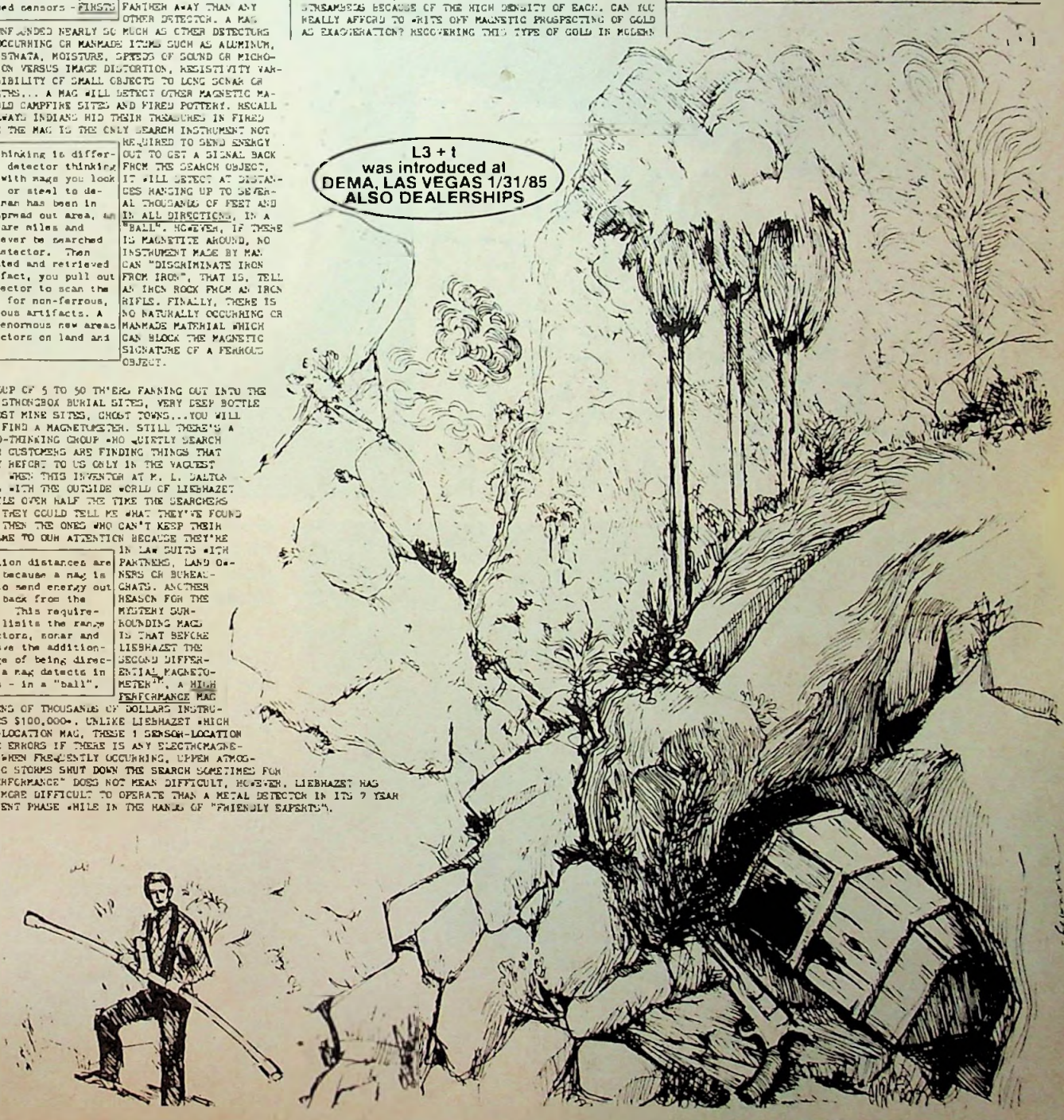
YOU CAN BOTH IN SOME PROSPECTING HANDBOOKS AT YOUR C. H. SHOP THAT THERE'S AN EVEN CLOSER RELATIONSHIP BET#EEN OLD, SUBMERGED, IRON TOOLS SNUGGLING UP TO GOLD IN STREAMBEDS BECAUSE OF THE HIGH DENSITY OF EACH. CAN YOU REALLY AFFORD TO #RITE OFF MAGNETIC PROSPECTING OF GOLD AS EXAGGERATION? RECOVERING THIS TYPE OF GOLD IN MODERN AND PREHISTORIC STREAMBEDS IS STILL IN ITS INFANCY. #E KNOW. #E'RE AT THE INFORMATION CROSS-CABS. THE PLACER GOLD PAYSTREAKS FOUND IN MODERN STREAMBEDS IN CALIFORNIA HAVE BARELY BEEN SCRATCHED USING MAGNETIC PROSPECTING, AND #HERE NE# STORM RIPS OFF MORE NE# SECTIONS OF STREAM BED AND BANK, RESHUFFLING THE DECK #ITH NE# GOLD. TRY TO IMAGINE THE #EALTH REMAINING IN PREHISTORIC ALASKAN STREAMBEDS - OR ELSE#HERE IN MORE BACK#ARD PARTS OF THE #ORLD!

ONE #ORD ABOUT P/C. THE AMERICAN SOCIETY FOR TESTING OF MATERIALS HAS DECREED THAT THIS PARTICULAR TUBULAR P/C IS AMONG THE TOUGHEST AVAILABLE CONTAINMENT MATERIALS, AND DID YOU KNO# THAT P/C #HITE ABSORBS OVER 10 TIMES LESS OF THE SUN'S RADIANT HEAT THAN ANY OF THE COLORS? HEAT IS THE ENEMY OF ELECTRONICS - THUS BETTER AND CHEAPER HIGH TECHNOLOGY.

LIEBHAZET IS STILL RIDICULOUSLY LOW PRICED FOR A HIGH PERFORMANCE MAG DEFINED AS 1/10 GAMMA OR BETTER, MAGNETIC STORM-CANCELLING, ELECTROMAGNETIC NOISE-IGNORING. GET IN BEFORE THE INEVITABLE, EXPENSIVE PATENT FIGHTS START - BEFORE THE "BIG DEAL" - BEFORE THE "SELLS AND #HISTLES".

M.L. DALTON RESEARCH 8215 ABERDEEN #AY DALLAS TX 75230 – PHONE (214) 691-4925
PHONE NOT ALWAYS ATTENDED SO CALL NIGHTS & #EEKENDS – ALSO EARLY MORNINGS

DETECTS 1 LB STEEL AT 20 FT & LO AT 80 FT; 2 TONS AT 120 FT, 125 TONS AT 1290 FT. MAGS $400 (LO) / $500 (LO) AND UP. SEND FOR FREE INFO OR $2 FOR COMPLETE INFO. SEND $19 $25 FOREIGN) FOR 81,000 #ORD 54 PIG BOOK SEARCHING #ITH 1 AND 2 SENSOR LOCATION MAGS (REVISED 1984)



FLORID WATER

SPANISH GOLD AND SILVER BEING RECOVERED IN LESS THAN 10 FEET OF WATER

One of our divers came up with this well-preserved eight escudo gold piece, worth thousands of dollars.

Florida's "Treasure Coast" is a stretch of beach that runs from five miles south of Ft. Pierce to ten miles north of Sebastian Inlet. All in all, it's an area only forty miles long.

How did it get its name? I guess you could say it all started back in July, 1715, when eleven Spanish ships sailed north along the Florida coast, slowly working their way back to Spain. If the treasure laden galleons had been able to continue their journey uninterrupted, the area would now be just another expensive piece of Florida real estate, but this was not the case. The mighty treasure fleet was struck by a violent hurricane, and ten of the

One day's diving yielded this pile of eight reales and a rare, intact jug, which was donated to the State of Florida.

A'S SHALLOW TREASURES

By Roy C. Volker

galleons were driven ashore into shallow reefs and sandbanks. Their hulls splintered and cracked open, dropping cargo and their precious treasure as the waves pounded the galleons to pieces. Many of the ships broke up so close to land that some survivors were thrown ashore. Others were not so lucky. They died in watery graves just offshore. More than 1,500 of the crew and passengers perished.

Over two hundred years later, two soldiers of fortune put the official tag of "Treasure Coast" on the area. They were Mel Fisher and Kip Wagner, and it all began when Wagner found several Spanish coins on the beaches in the 1950s and bought an army mine detector in hopes of increasing his finds. He then started recovering hundreds of the Spanish reales and eventually decided that there had to be a huge treasure offshore. Out to chase the great American dream, "Get Rich Quick," Wagner had the foresight to apply for a lease on the area from the State of Florida, and received it.

Kip Wagner's next move was to put a small group of treasure hunters together. Even with the primitive equipment they developed, they had success beyond their wildest expectations. A young, husky Mel Fisher from California visited Wagner on several occasions, offering to bring his entire group from California and employ his more sophisticated equipment to help Wagner's group harvest the treasure properly. When the agreement was finally made, the onslaught began, for instead of using a common underwater dredge, Mel Fisher applied a prop-wash system, which could move tons of sand in just minutes. Thousands of silver coins were found almost overnight, and within a few weeks, gold coins were uncovered. In one season alone, Kip's group found over two tons of silver and several thousand gold coins.

About the same time that Wagner's group was having such great success, Mel Fisher was duplicating the feat on another wreck, now famous as the "Gold Wreck," just five miles south of Ft. Pierce. It was at this point that the area truly began to take its name "Treasure Coast." Today the area is much like it was some twenty years ago. Treasure is still being sought and still being recovered (see "Foul Weather Finds" in the April 1985 **Treasure**). More treasure remains than what has already been found, although it's scattered more and somewhat harder to get at.

In 1981 I decided to try my hand at recovering some of this still unfound treasure from the 1715 Fleet, but felt it necesary to

Among other gold finds was this beautifully crafted ring.

Flanking Mel Fisher are the author (right) and Ken White, Jr., a co-owner of Sea Explorations; in front of us are the coins we recovered during August of 1984.

Besides the author (with cap, kneeling), the crew of the Explorer I consists of (from left to right) Betty Dunford, Bob DeBartolo, Captain Luther Peterson, Eddie Dunford and Moe Molinar.

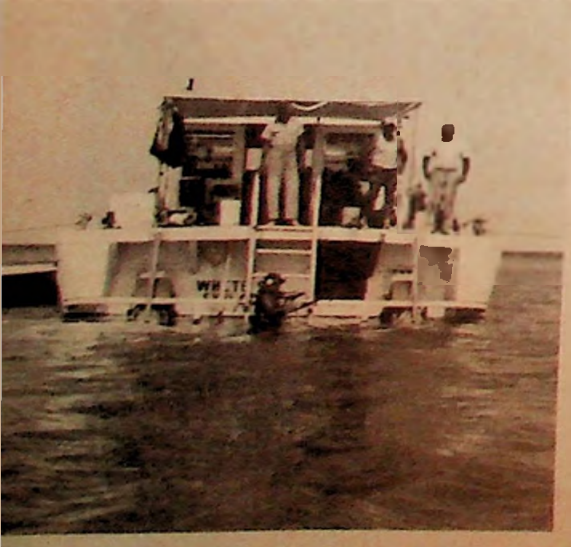
THE PLACES WE ARE WORKING ARE VIRGIN

approach the task with new ideas and methods. It came to my mind that while much of the treasure Fisher and Wagner recovered was found very close to shore, still they were limited as to how close to land they could get. Since their salvage boats drew four to five feet of water with their blowers down, any type of wave action prevented them from working in water less than nine to ten feet deep. Our company, called Sea Explorations, therefore bought two surplus jet-propelled, Viet Nam river gunboats, which we felt were perfect for our attempt. They were ideal work platforms, being twenty feet wide and fifty feet long; plus their shallow draft of eighteen inches enabled us to work extremely close to shore. Both boats, having almost flat bottoms with no prop shafts or rudders, gave us little concern even when wave action occasionally caused us to hit the sandy bottom. As a result, we were able to maneuver our boats into the shallow areas that Kip Wagner and Mel Fisher could never penetrate.

The places that we are working are virgin, so it's exciting to dig a hole twenty feet wide and thirty to forty feet long, then dive down to the bottom with underwater detectors. We search all the cracks and crevices, often finding Spanish coins throughout the process. Our pulse induction detectors are indeed important in this operation, and White's Electronics agreed to furnish us with their PI 1000 underwater instruments so we could test their durability and quality. So far it's been a cakewalk with these detectors.

We at Sea Explorations, with two full seasons under our belt, have slowly become proficient veterans. We have found a good quantity of treasure, mostly silver "pieces of eight" and many smaller coins. Although we have only located a small amount of gold, we are encouraged that we will find much more. Most of our artifacts are donated to the State of Florida to be displayed in their state museums.

Having a shallow draft and no prop shaft or rudder, the Explorer I is a perfect vessel for working areas out of reach to other divers.



Most of the treasure recovered has consisted of silver "pieces of eight" along with many smaller silver coins.

After working for two full seasons, our main boat, *White's Explorer I* will be joined by a sister ship, *Rainbow Chaser* for the 1985 season. The *Rainbow Chaser* is a great salvage boat, for she has more speed than *White's Explorer I*, and her diving crew is lead by her captain, Ken White, Jr. With the additional boat and crew working on our scattered wreck, I feel we will be able almost to double the 350 holes we opened up last season.

We know there are several places around our wreck that have tremendous potential. By digging the right hole, we can make "a treasure hunter's dream" an immediate reality. And maybe, just maybe, a hundred years from now when people ask how the "Treasure Coast" got its name, the answer will be from Mel Fisher, Kip Wagner, and hopefully a company called Sea Explorations. □

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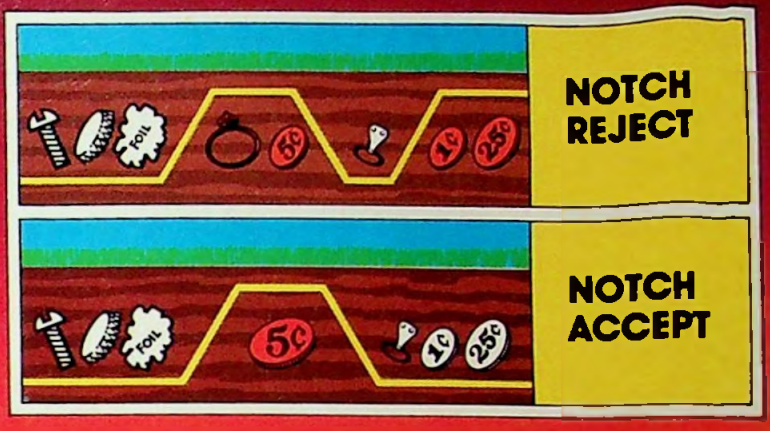

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The Brand New Di Pro Featuring:

VISUAL DISCRIMINATION INDICATOR (VDI): Know what you're detecting before digging! V.D.I. indicates the probable identity of targets: Gold, Silver, Coins, Iron, Pull Tabs, and Foil.

AUTOTRACK: Adjusts electronically to ground conditions. Manual ground tuning is a thing of the past!

DEPTH READING: Know the depth of a coinsized target before digging! Aids in pinpointing, helps recover objects safely.

PRESET: Everyone can use this detector, EVEN WITHOUT READING THE INSTRUCTIONS: PRESETS the detector for use under normal conditions.

TRIGGER SWITCH: Electronic switching at your fingertip; changes modes, switches meter from Visual Discrimination to Depth Reading, and retunes detector.

INCREASED DEPTH: Sensitivity control for maximum depth. More usable depth than ever before!

4½ INCH METER: Easy to read; mounted on the handle for easy viewing of important V.D.I. and Depth Reading; position creates excellent overall balance.

RECHARGEABLE BATTERY SYSTEM: Nickel Cadmium batteries can be recharged up to 1000 times. Charger included. Back-up battery pack for alkaline "C" cells.

GEB/NORM: Detects all metals while neutralizing ground mineralization.

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Automatic Ground Balance With "AutoTrack"

With just the flip of a switch, the Di Pro adjusts automatically to the ground conditions and any changes to maintain maximum depth. As you sweep the loop AutoTrack monitors even slight changes in ground mineralization and electronically resets the detector for maximum sensitivity and depth. You get the best detector performance, no matter what the conditions.

No more knob twisting to set or maintain ground balance. White's unique dual-function AutoTrack control operates automatically, or locks in a specific condition. No other detector gives you this much simplicity yet flexibility!

(White's decided a long time ago that we would not use the term "automatic" for a factory-set detector. A factory-set detector is not automatic; it is preset. Unlike other detectors, White's new AutoTrack is not simply a factory-set ground balance. It is truly automatic, adjusting with each sweep in the GEB/DISC track mode.)

Automatic Ground Balance. An engineering breakthrough. Now you have it.

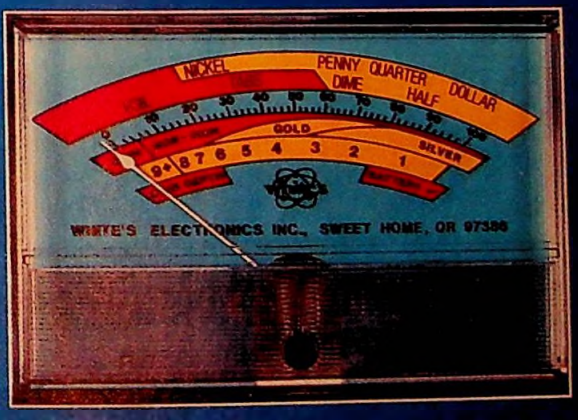
More Sensitivity. More Depth. All-new Sensitivity Control!

The Di Pro's new sensitivity control lets you increase the sensitivity beyond the PRESET mark where soil conditions permit. This means more **usable depth**, and is offered only by White's Professional Series. Use the Di Pro to search areas "worked out" by other, less sensitive detectors. Finding what they missed will earn you the title "Professional".

Depth of detection is one of the most important features of a metal detector. With the Di Pro, you can attain more **usable depth** than ever before. No outrageous claims, no misleading air test figures. Just a detector designed to give maximum performance in the ground—where it counts.

Exciting New Meter Design!

Large, easy to read coin and metal bands let you see at a glance what you've located and help you identify your target before you dig. For example, you can distinguish between a pulltab and a quarter with a glance at the meter. Then switch to Depth Reading to safely recover your target. The Reference Scale of 0-100 lets you associate various items with specific numbers. A feature the "Pro's" wouldn't be without!



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A truly professional dowsing instrument that anyone can use at a PRICE HUNDREDS of dollars LESS than many others on the market today.

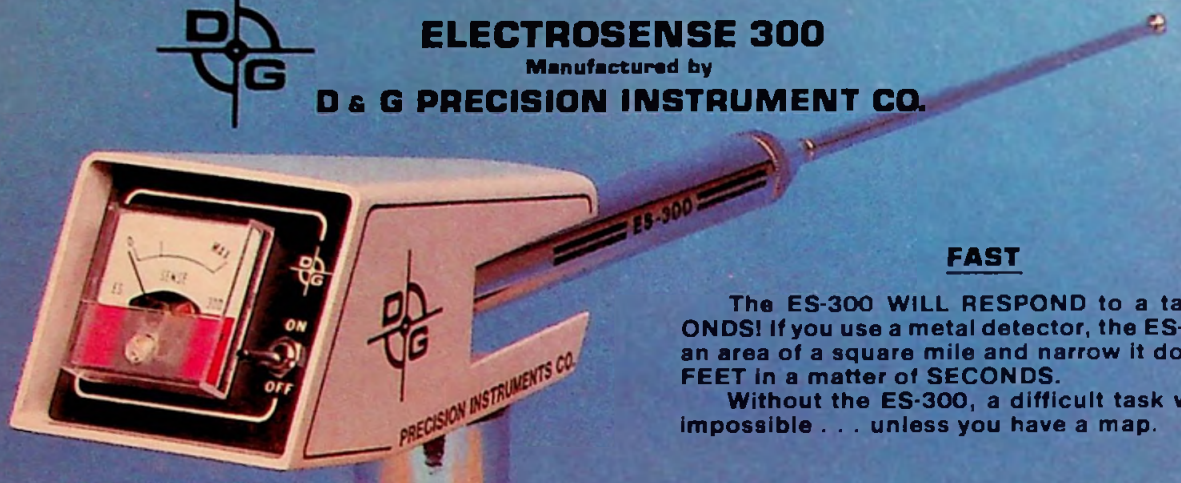
SLIGHT RESPONSES EASILY RECOGNIZED

Designed especially for people with weak responses as well as professionals who want the best. The electronic circuitry in the ES-300 allows the dowser to note even the slightest responses (targets.) At the same time in no way does it affect the actual movement of the dowsing rod.

ELECTROSENSE 300

Manufactured by

D & G PRECISION INSTRUMENT CO.



FAST

The ES-300 WILL RESPOND to a target in SECONDS! If you use a metal detector, the ES-300 can take an area of a square mile and narrow it down to a FEW FEET in a matter of SECONDS.

Without the ES-300, a difficult task will be nearly impossible . . . unless you have a map.

CONSTRUCTION

The ES-300 is constructed of all copper alloys (except meter housing) which is aluminum.

GUARANTEE

Guaranteed to perform as stated or return within 30 days for full refund.

MORE TREASURE OUT THERE THAN YOU CAN IMAGINE — GO GET IT!

Join thousands around the world that make dowsing work for them. You will find that the ability to dowse may be the greatest gift you have. Not all dowsers will need the amplification effect of the ES-300, however, it can come in handy for distant weak responses.

Incorrect Phone No. Last Issue!!!

Correct Phone No.
(818) 349-5843

We apologize for any inconvenience we may have caused you with last issue's incorrect phone number.

NOTICE

THE INTRODUCTORY PRICE OF $410.00 WITH CASE ENDS JULY 1st. 1985. AFTER 7-1-85 THE ES-300 GOES ON SALE WORLDWIDE AT ITS REGULAR PRICE $575.00, CASE INCLUDED.

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By Roman Malach

DOODLE BUGGING

METHODS FOR THE MODERN DOWSER

I HAVE A QUESTION OR COMMENT ABOUT DOWSING? IF SO, SEND THEM TO ROMAN MALACH, C/O "DOODLE-BUGGING," 6280 ADOBE RD., 29 PALMS, CA 92277.

Dowsing starts and ends in the mind, and such dowsing tools as the pendulum, fork stick and angle rods only bring to the surface, or manifest, the action of the mind. This theory is not mine alone, but is the general opinion of serious students of this ancient art.

The same idea was expressed by Deane H. Russell, president of the Canadian Society of Dowsers, who wrote, "Dowsing — seeking and finding or asking and receiving — can only be done by an effort of the mind. Our pendulums or rods are not caused to move by radiations or emanations from Earth energies . . . since nothing happens unless and until a question is entertained in the mind."

A pamphlet from the British Society of Dowsers describes dowsing as the following. "Sensitive responses reacting to the presence or absence of substances and entities can be used to seek those things which are hidden from our everyday senses.

"Most commonly used for finding water by interpreting the reactions obtained with a forked stick, dowsing is widely used for other purposes including geophysical and site surveying, medical diagnosis and healing, archaeological searches, agricultural and soil testing, tracing lost objects and missing persons.

"How does dowsing work? Although many theories have been put forward over the years, there is as yet no scientific explanation of the dowsing reaction. It is associated with the changes in brain rhythms and muscular responses, and most dowsers use some sort of instrument such as a rod or pendulum to amplify their responses."

Comments from a 65-year-old retired Air Force colonel, who is a student of metaphysics and parapsychology, also stress the action of the mind in dowsing. In one of his letters to me, the Colonel wrote, "Dowsing is a game of the mind and nothing more, telepathic communication between your computer and what you're looking for."

The Colonel, through extensive studies, has achieved a certain degree of mind control which many consider a requisite for successful dowsing. He, therefore, has a lot of good advice to offer dowsers: first of all, it is necessary to get rid of the old bugaboos, such as you can't successfully dowse in a thunderstorm or while wearing rubber-soled shoes.

In connection with this, it is very easy to put a negative idea in your mind. Verne Cameron wrote in his book that he stays away from cache dowsing because it is unpredictable. On this, the Colonel commented that Cameron has already made up his mind that dowsing is unpredictable and, therefore, has convinced himself he would be unsuccessful.

According to the Colonel, most errors in dowsing are caused by uncertain thoughts in your mind. For instance, you could tell yourself there is nothing buried in a particular place, and even if

(Continued on page 73)

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CIRCLE NO. 40 ON READER SERVICE COUPON

the LOST LEDGE

WALLY'S LOST GOLD

Somewhere in the California Mojave Desert, east of Fremont Peak and south of Blackwater Well, lies a rich gold prospect, according to Harold Weight in the April 1951 issue of the **Calico Print**. In 1922, Tom Wally had about 50 pounds of yellow porphyry "float" rock assayed, but it is not certain that he ever found the actual outcrop. He died before even he knew how extremely rich it was, and apparently he told no one where his prospect was located.

If James B. Nosser hadn't been such a busy assayer, there wouldn't be any story at all about Tom Wally's lost gold. Nosser, in his lifetime, did more than 100,000 assays, and back in 1922-23, he was an assayer at the great Kelly Silver Mine. Later, he was justice of the peace in Johannesburg, California.

During the 1920s, the Kelly or California Rand Silver Mine, was at its peak of production, and the assayers were usually rushed. They tried to get out company work first, then that of leasers on the company ground. All assaying for leasers was free, and naturally they brought in all sorts of ore. When the company and leaser work was complete, the assayers could, if they wished, do custom assaying for outsiders.

"Tom Wally was one of the leasers who brought in outside ore for assay," Nosser told later. "One time he brought in half a powder box of ore. I assayed it and gave him the results, which were quite low, about $8 per ton." From then on for a long time, Nosser saw nothing of Tom. Nosser knew, however, that Tom was in bad shape with asthma. Also, arthritis crippled one leg, so he had to hobble with a cane. One leaser told Nosser that he will not likely see Tom again because of the mistake made assaying one of his samples of ore.

In the meantime, Tom had given a similar sample to another assayer and got results of $28 per ton. Thinking this also was much too low, Tom became very angry, and he declared he would show all of them what kind of prospector he was. He knew when ore was really rich! Anyway, Tom Wally hobbled off for his rich ore and brought a specimen back to Nosser just when the shift was changing. Nosser was busy trying to get the day's results weighed up. Tom was in the way, and kept talking about his assay. Nosser scribbled a tag and handed it to Tom. Wally put the tag on the rock and left.

While Nosser was completing his work, Tim Wallace, engineer at the Kelly mine, saw the rock. It looked good to him, so without saying a word to Nosser, he dropped it into the crusher. Then he panned the results. He went back to the room where Nosser was working, yelling and waving the pan. There was at least a tablespoon of gold in it. Nosser was really upset because Tom was doubtful about his earlier assay, and this one was to have been a real test. Nosser now knew that Tom's ore was very rich, so he locked his assay shop and

(Continued on page 74)

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TREASURE IN T

FROM NEWSPAPERS AROUND THE WORLD, ARTICLES AND TIMEL

MUSTY VAULT YIELDS CONFEDERATE NAVAL PAPERS

BALTIMORE - A musty vault yielded a bundle of Confederate naval papers but little else yesterday, when Johns Hopkins University officials opened a safe that had been closed for 30 years.

University officials had speculated that an Egyptian mummy or two might have been hidden in the 4-by-6-foot vault, because the large safe was once in the custody of the archaeology department.

But when university President Steven Muller pulled open the door, there were no artifacts to be found. A bundle of Confederate naval papers appeared to be the most valuable discovery.

The papers, dating from January through May 1861, "look to be very valuable," but more research is needed to determine their exact worth, said Julia Morgan, the university archivist.

"I am just vastly relieved we got this open and we know what's inside," said Muller. "It's interesting, although it's not what I expected." **The Plain Dealer.** Submitted by Kent Bedford, Canton, OH.

ACID RAIN PLAYS HAVOC WITH GLASS TREASURES

GENEVA, SWITZERLAND - The stained glass treasures of Europe, some more than 1,000 years old, are gravely threatened by acid rain, according to a study sponsored by the U.N. Economic Mission for Europe.

Stained glass objects - such as church and cathedral windows - were generally in good condition up to the turn of the century, the study says. But it said in the last 30 years the "deterioration process has apparently accelerated to the extent that a total loss is expected within a few decades, if no remedial action is taken."

Glass of the medieval and post-medieval period (eighth to 17th centuries) is particularly endangered because of the process used in its production, said the report.

It is to be presented at a meeting next week of a working group established under the Convention on Long-Range Transboundary Air Pollution, an East-West treaty that went into force last year.

The study says acid rain could have a "disastrous effect" on more than 100,000 stained glass objects.

Sulphur dioxide, or sulphuric acid, one of the main elements of acid precipitation, has an etching effect on early stained glass. The surface corrodes, and salts form a chalky crust which accelerates the decomposition process.

"The glass substance finally splits and disintegrates into minute particles," the report said.

Sulphur compounds also seriously affect leather and paper objects, the report said. **Grand Rapids Press**. Submitted by Eddie Garner, Grand Rapids, MI.

DIGGING UP SPANISH COIN AND HISTORY

SAN MATEO, CA - Buster Burnham's discovery of an old Spanish coin in his garden has generated interest around the country.

Burnham was digging in his garden earlier this month and was down about a foot in the ground, he says, when he unearthed the coin.

Burnham's home is not far from a plaque marking the site of an encampment in 1776 of the DeAnza expedition - the folks who stumbled upon San Francisco and are credited as the official founders of The City. So Burnham figured his coin could have been dropped by a member of the expedition.

Burham took the coin to Peter Hamilton, a coin expert in San Mateo who told him it matched a description of a coin minted in 1723 during the reign of King Philip V, who founded the Bourbon line.

The coin was in use for about 50 years, Burnham said the dealer told him.

Whether it's unusual to find a 252-year-old Spanish coin remains in dispute.

Joe T. Wargo, of Numis International Inc., a Millbrae firm that deals in rare coins, said he doubed that the coin was dropped by the DeAnzas - probably by someone much later.

Wargo points out that Spanish coins were in circulation in California well into the 1850s or 1860s. "There have been Spanish coins found here from time to time because they were used as a medium of exchange; even after California became a state, a part of the union, they circulated to a certain extent.

"It's common to find Spanish material in this area, because this is a Spanish-oriented area. This was all hacienda area up until the late 1800s."

Whatever its lineage, the coin has provided the Burnham family with some excitement. Burham said he has received calls on the coin from around the country, and it will be the subject of at least one article in a coin-collectors' magazine.

Burnham said it is very exciting to think that his coin may have

HE HEADLINES

NOTES ON TREASURE AND THE HOBBY OF TREASURE HUNTING.

been dropped on his property before the Declaration of Independence was signed.

Burnham is poring over records at the San Mateo Historical Society, researching his find.

He said his wife will wear the coin around her neck for awhile; then he will probably donate it to the San Francisco Historical Society.

Burnham described himself as a "fifth-generation San Franciscan" who has lived in San Mateo "maybe 30, 35 years. It's the first time I've found anything like this. It's better than the Andrea Doria." **San Mateo Times**. Submitted by Thomas McCall, San Mateo, CA.

HIGH TECH HUNTS SUNKEN TREASURE

The discovery this summer of a rich array of sunken mystery ships - possibly including a long-sought French freighter laden with gold - heralds a new era in underwater exploration.

That's the prediction of a nonprofit research group, the National Underwater and Marine Agency (NUMA), which has just completed an extraordinary season of discoveries, including -

- The *Leopoldville*, a steamship carrying 2,200 American soldiers that was torpedoed by a German submarine off Cherbourg, France, on Christmas Eve, 1944. About 800 GIs were killed, and many are still entombed in the vessel.
- The *U-20*, a German submarine rediscovered off the Danish coast. It sank the luxury liner *Lusitania* - an action that helped plunge the United States into World War I.
- A freighter off Weymouth, England, that may be the *Montclair*, a vessel believed to have spirited a fortune in gold out of France when the Germans took control in 1940.

Although divers have probed for wrecks for centuries, the spate of recent discoveries from Europe to the Chesapeake Bay reflects the best success to date. Many findings were made by devices such as side-scan sonar, which beams sound to the sea floor and converts echoes to pictures, and by computers and satellites that pinpoint sites.

New technology also is being used to process valuable discoveries. Example: A new chemical, Fomblin, is preserving materials in the sunken liner *Andrea Doria's* safe, which was salvaged in 1981. The safe was opened August 16 after a three-year delay.

Clive Cussler, who founded NUMA to search for historic vessels, says the freighter matching the *Montclair's* description was spotted by new testing equipment aboard the organization's leased yacht, the *Arvor*. Because NUMA does not hunt treasure, sonar pictures of the sunken ship and its location were given to British authorities for further exploration.

Ironically, it was the use of such equipment that got NUMA into trouble while the *Arvor* was searching off the coast of France for the *Leopoldville*. Cussler says that the vessel lies "right in the middle of the French Navy's nuclear-testing grounds. Who shows up but Clive Cussler and his merry band, on this boat loaded with underwater detection gear. The French must have thought we were the Central Intelligence Agency."

French officials, he says, "tore our boat apart." Cussler's search request was turned down, and the *Arvor* was forced to depart for England. En route, it made a quick pass over the area where the *Leopoldville* was supposed to be and quickly located the wreck. With the French threatening, the *Arvor* scurried to safety in British waters.

Memorial plans. The *Leopoldville*, about which little was ever made public, turned out to be a major find. The ship had been sought for years, and now there are plans to create a memorial near the vessel.

Cussler says that hundreds of lives were needlessly lost in a blundered rescue attempt. "The Army," he says, "sent out telegrams to hundreds of relatives of those men that said only, 'Killed in action.' Many relatives still have no idea where or how

In order for the editors to keep you abreast of all the latest happenings in the field of treasure hunting, we need your help. One of our best sources of information is the newspaper, but there are so many papers across the country it is impossible to read them all. This is where you come in. When you see an item you think would be of interest to your fellow treasure hunters, clip it out and send it to us so we can share it with THers everywhere. We will print your name along with the clipping in the Headlines section. If more than one person submits the same clipping, we will print the name of the person who first sent it. Clippings used will be selected by the editors.

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HEADLINES

those men died."

Other results from recent discoveries, including a probe of the U-boat, will take longer to assess. But already, scholars say, the research shows that there is much more treasure to mine than gold - and that new technology promises even more rewards in the future. **U.S. News & World Report.** Submitted by Mr. Pat Sweeney, Roseville, CA, and Mr. George Pirtle.

PATTON'S BATTLE PLANS FOR AFRICA LEFT IMPRINT ON CALIFORNIA DESERT

IRON MOUNTAIN, CA - The immense maze of rock-lined footpaths and dirt roads forms an eerie pattern on the hot desert floor amid the cacti and creosote shrubs.

Bands of World War II tank tracks crisscross the arid landscape as far as the eye can see.

They are the reminders that here, at the center of a 16,200-square-mile desert tract that stretches from Indio, Calif., into Arizona and Nevada, Gen. George S. Patton, Jr., prepared his troops for a clash in North Africa with the armored legions of German Field Marshal Erwin Rommel, the "Desert Fox."

It was here that Patton told his troops he would like to challenge Rommel to one-on-one tank combat.

"The two armies could watch. I'd be in one tank, Rommel in another. I'd shoot at him. He'd shoot at me. If I killed him I would be champ. If he killed me . . . well, he won't," mused Patton.

Sixty thousand tankers, infantry and artillerymen trained in the Southern California desert from March until October, 1942. Then Patton broke camp. On Nov. 8, 1942, the general and his men landed in North Africa.

Etched on the desert here today is the dramatic imprint of Patton and his 1st Armored Corps, the incredible rock work created by soldiers laboring under scorching sun in one of the loneliest spots in America.

Rock patterns form company insignias and emblems. Millions of rocks outline the location of tent cities, parking lots, hospitals, mess halls, compounds, supply areas, chapels, paths and roads.

Every desert plant within the camp in 1942 and still thriving today is ringed with rocks, for when the troops were between maneuvers, Patton put them to work gathering rocks, then

bordering everything in sight with stones.

A gigantic relief map the size of a football field also has weathered the passage of time. It was used to plot maneuvers and includes mountains, valleys, the Colorado River and the Salton Sea.

Now, the U.S. Bureau of Land Management is planning to create a Patton memorial park at the Iron Mountain camp site, about 200 miles from Los Angeles.

"Seven years ago the bureau constructed a 2½-mile long fence around the Iron Mountain camp to prevent vehicles from damaging and destroying the amazing rock work," said Everell G. Hayes, 35, manager of the bureau's Needles Resources Area, during a visit to the remote campsite.

"We want to build an access road enabling the public to visit Iron Mountain camp. We plan to establish a self-guided trail through the camp with interpretive displays explaining what transpired here."

The bureau is asking World War II soldiers who trained with Patton and the thousands of others who were stationed at the desert outpost after the 1st Armored Division left for Africa to send it information about their experiences.

"We hope men who were stationed here during World War II will write to the U.S. Bureau of Land Management, 901 3rd St., Needles, CA 92363, and describe what daily living conditions were like, including anecdotes," said Debbie Paxton, 28, bureau visitor information specialist working on the project.

"We are seeking photographs of the period and ask that the pictures be identified: what they show, when and where they were taken. We will copy the photos and return them."

The material will be used for displays and for preparing brochures and booklets about the Desert Training Center.

Everell said that 300,000 troops trained at the base from March, 1942, until May, 1944. There were 14 camps on the sprawling reservation: 10 in California and 4 in Arizona. The bureau's immediate plans call for a park only at Iron Mountain.

Similar rock work is intact at each camp after all these years. With the popularity of off-road vehicles in recent years have come treasure hunters, scouring the area with metal detectors searching for World War II souvenirs. **The Sunday Journal.** Submitted by Larry Violette, Rehoboth, MA.

FINDS $70,000

TALLAHASSEE, FL - A mailroom worker at a Tallahassee newspaper, the **Democrat**, was stuffing papers into supposedly empty mailbags when he discovered that one of the bags contained $70,000 in cash. The money was discovered Monday by Willie Bisbee, 30. When he returned to the post office with word of his find, postal employees knew just what he was talking about. "When I got there, they told me (the bag) had $70,000 in cash in it, all $50 bills. They said they'd been looking for it for months, but then considered it lost," Bisbee said. **St. Petersburg Times**. Submitted by Lester F Dailey, Tarpon Springs, FL.

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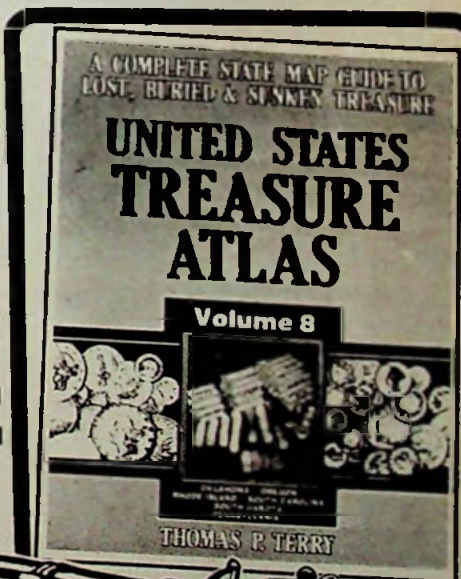

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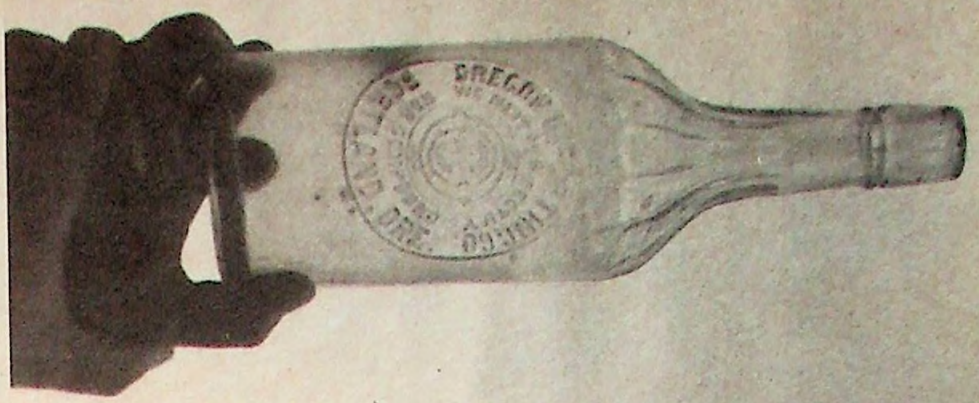

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RIVER BONANZA

OVERLOOKED STEAMBOAT LANDING PAYS OFF FOR BOTTLE HUNTER

Last summer Dan Upson had a lot of spare time. Work as a marine electrician was irregular, and his living in a houseboat required no lawn mowing and little gardening. So, when the tide was low along Oregon's Multnomah Channel, several miles downstream from Portland, Dan poked around along the riverbank.

He found several interesting locations, but one in particular intrigued him. Bricks on the bank included some that were marked "E. J. Jeffers, 1871." Jeffers had been an early Portland brickmaker with a reputation for putting his name and the year on his bricks. Dan followed the water's edge and discovered pieces of dishes and interesting shards of glass: amber like whiskey bottles, green and blue like patent medicines, clear with a hint of purple like prescription ware. Out in the water, rotted stubs of piling were visible, suggesting that a dock had once stood there.

Research at the Historical Society showed that the location had been one of the way-stops of sternwheelers like the *Harvest Queen* as they plied between St. Helens and Portland, dropping off passengers and supplies and picking up farmers' produce.

As the summer drew on, the river got lower. When the water was the farthest out—low flow and low tide—Dan would go wading. He checked carefully around the piling, for pockets usually erode at the piling's base, and found a few items of interest. But, it was out in swimming and diving depths where the bottle lode turned up.

I was with Dan when the big bonanza was discovered. The first dip revealed an intact pottery whiskey jug, and the jug was surrounded with old bottles. Rectangular Dr. J. Hostetters Stomach Bitters were fairly common. (That day we found four.) But, the real abundant bottles were various styles and sizes of Dr. D. Jayne's Tonic Vermifuge. We wondered who, in a sparsely populated farming area, would use so many. After pondering this for days, we realized the farmers must have used the Tonic Vermifuge to worm their livestock, for there were too many to have been used just for humans.

The winters used to get cold along the Multnomah Channel. Reportedly, farmers would cut blocks of ice from the river and pack them in sawdust in a riverbank shed to use in cooling their dairy products the next summer. Perhaps that cold is the reason so many whiskey bottles turned up. Most were unembossed quarts and pints, but a few were marked "Oregon Importing Company. We Neither Compound nor Rectify." (Their slogan meant the contents were straight whiskeys, not blended.) One flask was embossed "Crystal Bar, Portland, Oregon."

Many of the other bottles reflected local history. Home Creamery bottles from Portland and Fairfield Dairy in Hillsdale represented the dairy industry. Drugstore bottles from E. E. Prowell and Plummer Drug Co. were among the many prescription containers from Portland to turn up.

There was an interesting array of glassware from other places. Liquor bottles included Hildebrandt & Posner whiskey from San Francisco, Pernod absinthe from France, wine from Portugal and other countries. Beer and ale bottles were well represented, though these were unembossed except for "Henry Weinhard, Portland, Oregon." Food containers included fruit jars, peppersauce, pickle and relish jars, and an olive oil bottle from the Los Angeles Olive Growers Assn.

Dan followed the supply of bottles downstream, where they had been swept by numerous high waters. His instant bottle collection grew, with prescription ware, inks, patent medicines, milk bottles, and fruit jars. When I got around to taking pictures of the finds, he had already sold part of them.

The abundant Dr. Jayne's Tonic Vermifuge bottles were going for $2.50 apiece, a bargain for collectors but a nice side income for Dan. Others were going for greater or lesser amounts, but he was saving back some of the better ones, perhaps for the next bottle club meet.

Among Dan's favorites are a pottery Chinese food jar, a nicely-

(Continued on page 49)

a ***One of the favorites from the riverbank was this Oregon Importing Company whiskey bottle. The motto, "We Neither Rectify Nor Compound," meant it was straight whiskey, not blended.***

b ***Dan poses with part of the riverbank find. He had sold many of the bottles by the time this photo was taken.***

c ***Dan Upson scrambles over a log as he prowls the riverbank in search of clues to more bottle bonanzas.***

KEENE'S NEW HOT-

THE MODEL 151 SPORTS MAN

That season is upon us again. The spring rains are tapering off, and the ground is slowly drying out. And this time of year a young prospector's thoughts lightly turn to visions of—dry washing!

There are a great many treasure hunters and recreational prospectors who have never used any equipment more sophisticated than a shovel, gold pan, and possibly a sluice box. Dry washing is a great mystery. In fact, we know some people who doubt that it is even possible to recover gold using methods involving air separation. They feel that the **only** way to recover gold is with water-operated units.

Nothing could be further from the truth. The '49ers used dry washers in the goldfields of this country, and in Australia you can find mile after mile of small dirt mounds which are the tailing piles of the one-man "dry blowers" used by the Aussie prospectors. Dry washers **do** work, and with a little bit of understanding and proper set-up, they work extremely well.

While the older-style dry washers used either a hand-operated or motor-driven bellows to produce puffs of air to separate the lighter unwanted overburden from the heavier gold, the new generation of dry washers, such as the Keene Vibrostatic Concentrator, produce the cushion of air necessary for separation in an entirely different manner. Instead of a bellows producing intermittent puffs of air, the Vibrostatic Concentrator incorporates a continuous air floatation system coupled with both a vibration and an electrostatic charge to recover gold as fine as 200 mesh.

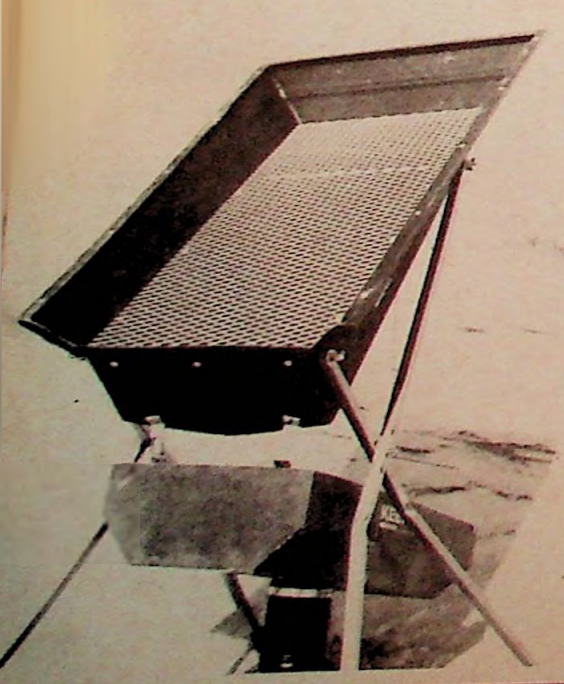
The basic method of operation of the Vibrostatic Concentrator is really very simple. Gold bearing material is shoveled into the upper "hopper" where the larger rocks are shunted off. The smaller material drops through a classifying screen where it is metered onto the riffle tray at a constant rate.

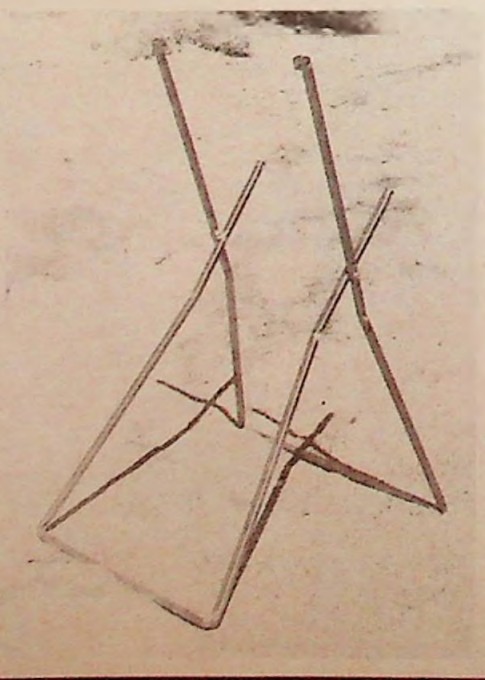
A blower, driven by a gasoline engine, forces high velocity warmed air through a hose into the plenum chamber at the bottom of the riffle tray. This air forces its way up through a special cloth just beneath the riffles. This cloth, in conjunction with the material of which the riffle tray itself is constructed, creates an electrostatic charge which attracts and holds extremely fine particles of gold.

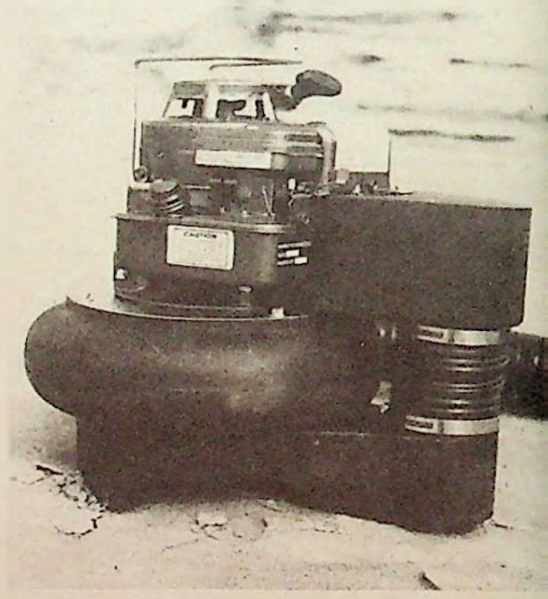
In addition to the electrostatic charge, the air flow creates a "cushion" which lifts and suspends the lighter unwanted

The extra-large hopper allows processing of up to two tons of material per hour.

One improvement we really liked was the newly designed frame.

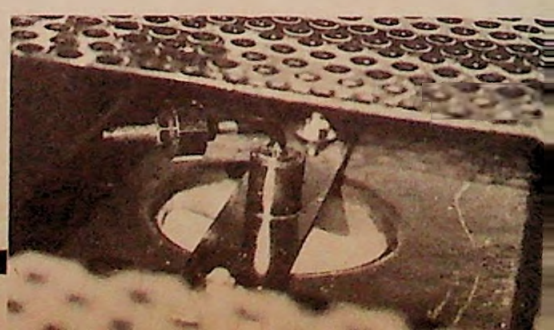






Of the many new improvements, the hot air ducting system leading from the engine to the blower is the greatest advancement.

Another new feature, an adjustable counterweight, varies the vibrating frequency for different types of material.



AIR DRY WASHER

Y MAJOR IMPROVEMENTS

The carrying handle makes the newer, lighter engine-blower assembly much easier to transport.

waste materials reaching the riffle tray. The heavier gold settles and is trapped in the riffles, while the lighter suspended wastes flow on down over the riffles and out the lower end of the tray into the tailing pile.

In addition to small nuggets and fine gold, the riffles will also trap heavy "black sand." As the riffles begin to fill up, the engine is shut down and the heavy "concentrates" are removed from the riffle tray and panned with an ordinary gold pan in a container of water, as the final step in the gold recovery process.

The recovery principle works beautifully—particularly on very dry material. But what happens if the gold-bearing material is damp?

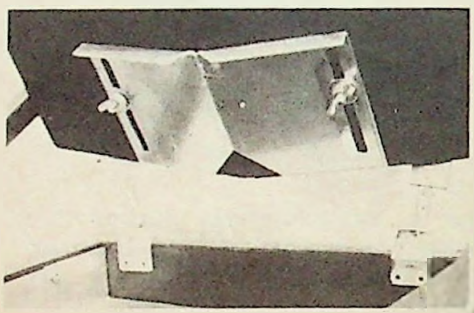
In the past, damp material created quite a severe problem. It "clumped" together, carrying the gold on out of the dry washer. But two innovations on the Keene Vibrostatic Concentrator have eliminated that shortcoming. The first is a special unit creating a "vibration" that breaks up the clumps and helps settle even the finest gold to the base of the riffles. The second is a ducting system that preheats the air before it is delivered to the riffle tray. This warm air helps dry and break up the clumps of material, and helps to keep the cloth beneath the riffles dry, thus creating a stronger and more efficient static charge for fine gold recovery.

A small "air motor" is used to create the riffle tray vibration. And a sliding weight permits adjustment of the oscillating vibration. By changing the vibration rate to suit the material being processed, the operator can greatly increase the efficiency of recovery, without any sacrifice in either the air pressure **or** the electrostatic charge. The adjustable counterweight comes from the factory preset for the average optimum conditions. However, when one is processing gravel containing high concentrations of moisture, the counterweight should be adjusted inward toward the central shaft, thus reducing the swing and increasing the frequency of the vibration. Under other conditions, a decreased vibration frequency, producing more of a "pounding" effect, will provide the best results. Adjustment becomes a matter of experience, and a little experimentation will quickly produce the optimum setting for different types of material.

The new hot air ducting system is capable of preheating the air some 50 degrees above ambient temperatures, making it possible to process damp material that previously just couldn't be worked. In addition to preheating the air before it reaches the riffle tray, this system also has the added advantage of cooling the engine, thus adding countless hours to the life of the engine.

As gold-bearing material is shoveled into the oversized hopper, a sliding gate regulates the rate at which the material is fed onto the riffle tray. This way the prospector can keep on shoveling material into the hopper and be assured that precisely the right amount is being metered onto the riffles. The width at which the sliding gate is opened will be determined by both the type of gold-bearing material being processed and the drop-angle of the riffle tray. The idea is to keep a smooth, even flow of material across the riffles. If not enough material flows, it takes a great deal longer to process a given amount of material. On the other hand, if too much material is flowing, the riffles may not have a chance to do their job, and gold may flow out with the tailings.

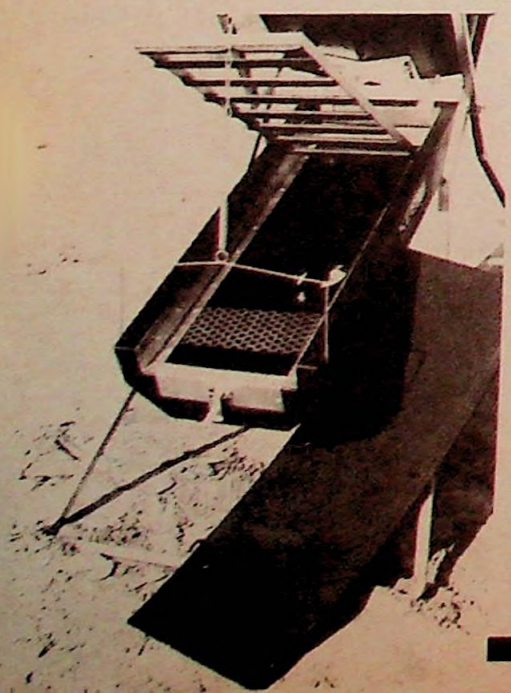
The angle of drop of the riffle tray should also be adjusted according to the type of material



The flow meter is quickly adjusted by two wing nuts.

Under most conditions, a single person cannot keep up with the concentrator's processing capacity.

The cloth unit beneath the riffles removes for easy cleanup or replacement.



A tough plastic housing guards the blower's fan and shaft against damage from rocks and sand.

BESIDES BEING MORE COMPACT, THE NEW FRAME TRANSFERS THE VIBRATION OF THE RIFFLE TRAY TO THE HOPPER

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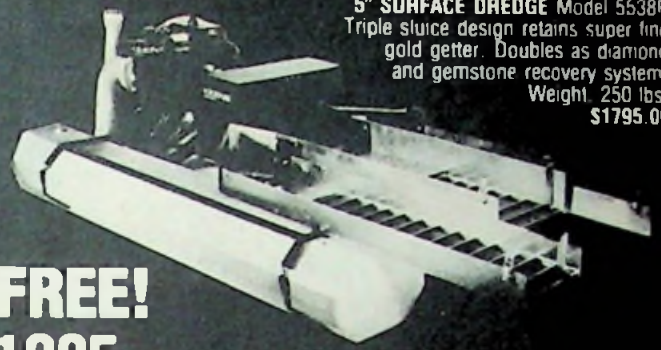

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Years ago, the **TREASURE** staff learned the hard way about the problem of returning to a potential site after a long period of time. Everything looked different: We took the wrong dirt road for miles; Landmarks we thought were there, weren't; the search area was covered with new brush and was almost impossible to relocate! Our confusion and frustration grew--"The creek didn't seem that close the last time." "Didn't we get those coins by that tree stump?" "Next time somebody remember to bring mosquito repellent!" "Why didn't I remember to bring a small coil for working around these bolders." In short, our memory had failed us completely. Due to this hard-learned lesson, we decided to design a TREASURE LOG for our own use; one that was simple, yet that would supply us with all the information we would need on a return trip, no matter how long it was since our last visit. And take our word for it, they are worth their weight in gold!

Because of the great interest THers have expressed when they've seen these logs, we thought we would make them available to all. They are printed on extra heavy 70 lb. bond paper and are standard 8½ x 11 notebook size. (You can add dividers, extra sheets for drawings, photos, etc.) As you can see, the front side has spaces for a multitude of important information, plus an area to sketch a map and record landmarks to get you back to your site with ease.

The back also has a large map area which is designed for a more detailed scale drawing of the search site, showing finds that were made, areas searched, plus new sites that may show promise for the next trip. There is plenty of room for general notes and for listing finds to correspond with your map.

The TREASURE LOGS are being offered in lots of three dozen—72 sides of important info for only $3.50 plus $1.00 for postage and handling. ($4.50 Total)

being processed. The force of the air, the action of the vibration, the opening of the flow gate, and the angle of the riffle tray must all be coordinated for optimum gold recovery. Material should not "tumble" down the tray—it should flow smoothly across the riffles. The metal riffles themselves will be completely covered with material, but you should be able to see a distinct line in the flow of the material where it crosses each riffle—sort of like a small ocean wave. Then you can be assured you are getting correct processing for maximum gold recovery.

For cleanup a single latch is unsnapped, the riffles pivoted upward from the cloth, and the gold-bearing concentrates in the riffle tray emptied into a bucket or other container. Should the cloth beneath the riffles become worn after considerable use, it is easily replaceable in the field.

A new frame has been engineered so the Keene Vibrostatic Concentrator may be easily "folded" into carrying position, and "unfolded" into working position. The new design eliminates the need for extra nuts and bolts that are time consuming to install or that may be lost in the field. The design of the frame also transfers the vibration from the riffle tray to the hopper, resulting in a more even material feed.

Power for the Vibrostatic Concentrator is supplied by a 3½HP Briggs & Stratton four-cycle engine, mounted directly to a 2,000 cubic-feet-per-minute blower. The normal optimum operating speed of the engine is around 2,500 RPM, or approximately two-thirds throttle. This leaves plenty of reserve power for those difficult areas of heavy black sand concentrations or damp material.

Keene Engineering rates the processing capacity of its Vibrostatic Concentrator in excess of two tons per hour. This, of course, will vary with the material being processed, but there is little doubt that the machine will usually out-process the shoveling capacity of one man.

The suggested retail price of the Keene Vibrostatic Concentrator is $549, and additional information is available from Keene Engineering, Dept. T, 9330 Corbin Ave., Northridge, California 91324.

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CIRCLE NO. 39 ON READER SERVICE COUPON

One of the most common questions asked by relic hunters is, How did so many Civil War soldiers lose their belt buckles? The question sounds simple and obvious on first thought, but the answer is not quite so obvious. The answer of one famous relic hunter and author was always the same and received some very puzzled glares. Stan Phillips' answer was usually, "When the urge hits you late at night and you dropped your belt in your mess out in the woods, would you grovel around in it trying to find the belt?" There may be some truth to Stan's statement, but Civil War soldiers didn't use belts to hold their pants up. If you look at the old photos, you will notice that their belts are on the outside of their coats and not around the tops of their pants. In fact, if you look at a pair of their pants, you probably will not even find any belt loops. Ah, now you are getting the idea—they held their pants up with suspenders.

The belts they used were actually called "accoutrement belts." They were used to carry a bayonet, percussion cap pouch and ammunition pouch. Because of the weight of the ammunition pouch with at least 40 rounds of ammo in it, they also wore a cross-shoulder belt that had a round plate located in the center of the chest. This plate had either an eagle or state seal design on it and is normally referred to as a "breast plate." Since the breast plates were shiny brass and in what was considered a dangerous location, it was not unusual for privates to take them off and put them in their pockets before going into battle. They made just too good a bull's-eye for the enemy to aim his rifle at. Many of them never reached a pocket; they were just discarded. Inset into the solder on the back of the breast plate were two iron loops. The iron loops were stuck through the leather shoulder belt, and a leather thong or safety pin type device was inserted through the loops to hold the breast plate in place. Occasionally these broke and the plate was lost.

Now that we know how many of the breast plates were lost, we still have that nagging question of how the buckles were lost. Just think for a few minutes: if you are in the field or camp and your belt is designed to carry your gear, are you going to wear it all the time? If you are in a winter camp, you might be living in a log cabin that you built with nails to hang your gear on. But for the rest of the year you either slept in a tent or under the stars. What did you do with your gear? Most likely you laid it on the ground or hung it on a tree branch. If you were suddenly attacked or had to make a fast night move, you didn't always remember where you had left your belt or you just couldn't find it. If you had been "lucky" and had acquired a bottle of spirits the night before, you probably had no idea where you had left your belt. There are all kinds of explanations. Of course, losing your belt and buckle in battle, especially if you were wounded, is obvious. But more buckles or accoutrement plates have been found in campsites than on the battlefields, and they are usually in better condition too.

Civil War buckles and buttons are probably the two most collectible items that relic hunters find. Why? Most of them are made of brass, which does not normally deteriorate badly in the ground. Most of them are intricately designed and are literally works of art. Perfect, undamaged specimens are in the minority.

Valued at around $600, the famous rectangular "C.S.A." buckle is what most people think of when Confederate belt buckles are mentioned.

SOME OF THESE RELICS BRING OVER $3,500 EACH

This Leech & Rigdon rectangular tongue and wreath buckle, worth over $2,000, was found in the trenches at Cassville, Georgia, by Kenny Copelin, who dug it from where his hunting partner had sat down to eat lunch.

EVALU CIVIL

UATING WAR BUCKLES

By Charles S. Harris

With the exceptions of the common "U.S." oval buckle, the eagle sword belt plate and the eagle breast plate, none were made after the Civil War. Some varieties are great rarities - less than five are known to exist. All are appreciating in value rapidly. All of these facts add up to a great investment opportunity. If you buy a good one, you know that the value is going to increase. There are a number of fakes on the market, so be careful if buying buckles. If you dig one, you can feel that you found a good dollar item for nothing. It was just a big bonus that came along with something that you love to be doing anyway. As far as buckles, a common "U.S." oval is going for $55 currently. Some of the rarer Confederate state seal buckles will bring upwards of $3,500 each.

There are four major classes of buckles, whether North or South: (1) central government issue; (2) state militia buckles; (3) two-piece tongue and wreath; and (4) frame and plain sheet brass buckles. Each class will have both the solid cast brass type and the stamped brass with solder filled type.

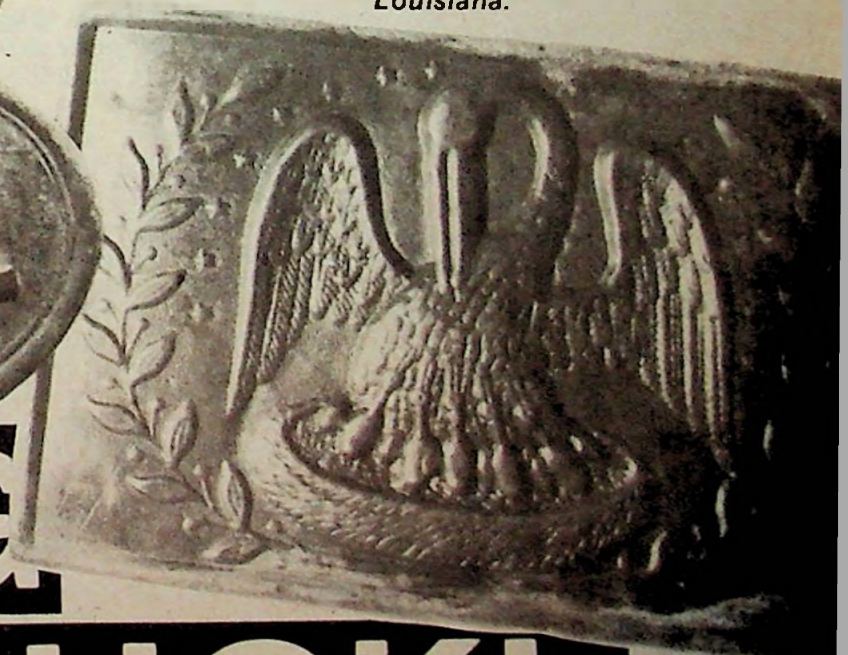
As already mentioned, the "U.S." oval buckle is the most common of all. Possibly millions of them were made by an untold number of manufacturers. The face is stamped from thin brass with steel dies; the belt hooks are set in place; and solder is poured in the back to hold everything together. The "U.S." oval buckle comes in three sizes - small, medium and large. The medium size is the scarcest. Ten years ago the large variety of the "U.S." buckle could be bought for $10. Now they are $55. This buckle was worn by most of the Yankee enlisted men regardless of branch of service.

Most of the Yankee officers wore what is referred to as a sword belt plate. This was a solid cast brass rectangular buckle with an eagle, rays and banner cas

These are a couple of $650 items—at top a very crude "C.S." egg-shape buckle; below is a "C.S." rope bordered oval buckle.

The Tennessee style "C.S." buckle sells for $800 to $1,100—this is one of nine specimens dug from a single location at Tunnel Hill, Georgia.

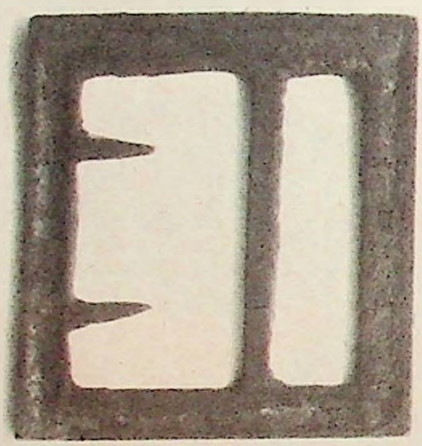
Yankee state militia buckles with letter abbreviations range in value from $250 to $450.

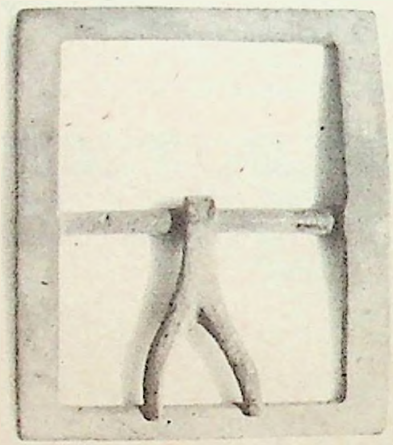


Four years ago, this Louisiana state seal buckle sold for $1,200. It was found at Port Hudson, Louisiana.

The oval Georgia state seal buckle at top is worth about $900; although damaged, the rectangular South Carolina state seal buckle below it sold for $200.

The eagle breast plate on the right illustrates the reason soldiers often removed them in combat—made of shiny brass, they offered too good a target for enemy rifles.





The baby "forked tongue" frame buckle on the right generally sells for at least $125, while the guttered variety of Georgia framebuckle to the left is worth about $150.

into the front surface. Some have a cast laurel wreath as part of the design surrounding the eagle; others have a soldered-on German silver laurel wreath. This same buckle was used into the 1890s, but there is a difference. The main belt hook on the reverse is the key. The hook on the Civil War varieties is ½ inch wide and ¾ inch long. The postwar varieties have a main hook that is about 1½ inches wide and only about ½ inch long.

There are four main types of Confederate service buckles. The most common is the equivalent of the "U.S." oval, the "C.S." oval. Most of the "C.S." oval buckles are not solder filled, and the hooks are made of soldered-on brass trims. This was making the most use of limited supplies. They sell for about $650. In fact, most Confederate items are worth about ten times that of their Yankee counterparts.

The next most common Confederate buckle is the solid cast rectangular "C.S.A." This buckle is found in two major variations: the Virginia style and the Georgia style. The Virginia style was made in a metal mold and is thinner and slicker than the Georgia style. Characteristically you will notice three shiny spots on the face. These are located where the hooks are to be found on the reverse and are caused by the differential cooling of the hot brass. The Georgia style is made in a sand cast mold. The surfaces are rough like sand with the edges filed smooth. The Georgia style is almost twice as thick as the Virginia style. Like the "C.S." oval, the "C.S.A." buckles sell for over $600 if they have all three hooks intact. By the way, there is **no** "C.S.A." oval buckle. It was authorized but never made. The "C.S.A." rectangle was not authorized, but was made. There is also a "C.S.A." rectangle buckle made of pewter that is worth about $1,000. A very high demand buckle is the Tennessee variety "C.S." It is a solid cast rectangle with the letters "C.S." in the center. The corners are rounded, and the hooks on the back have spin marks around them. This buckle is worth $800 to $1,100, depending on condition.

The state militia plates or buckles are the goodies, whether Confederate or Yankee. The ten to one ratio still holds, though. Oddly enough, most of the militia plates were made in Yankeeland. A great percentage of them seems to be attributed to E. Gaylord, one of the major military suppliers up north. The reason for this is that

MORE BUCKLES HAVE BEEN FOUND IN CAMPSITES THAN ON BATTLEFIELDS

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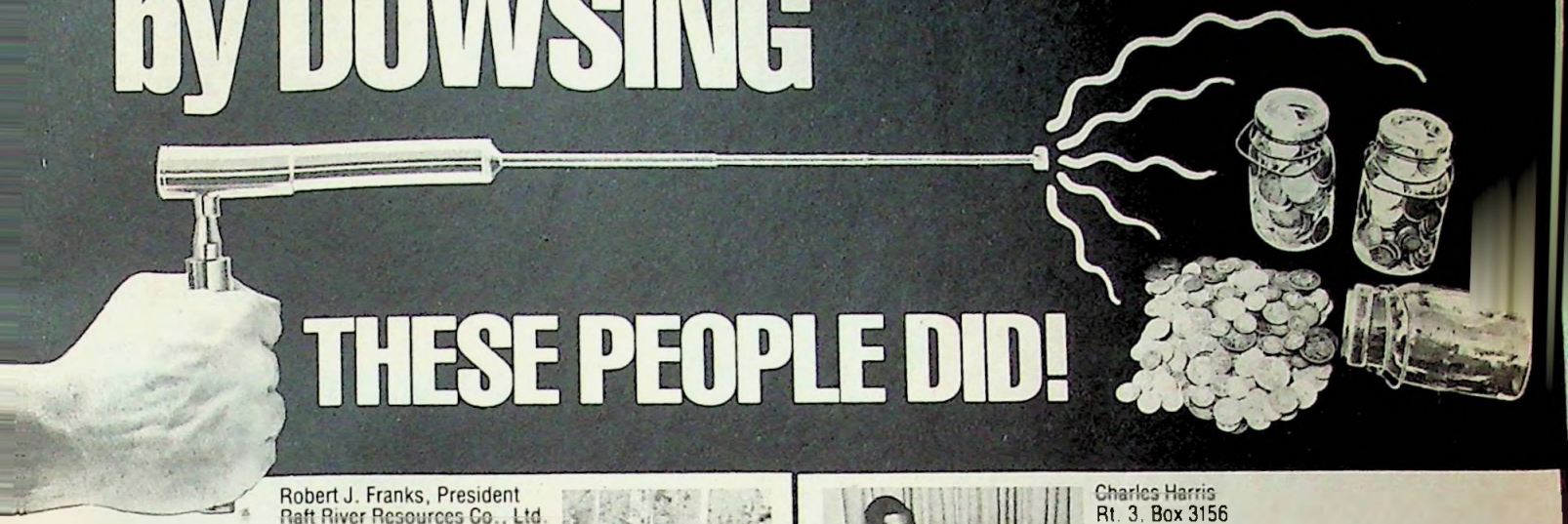


THESE PEOPLE DID!

Robert J. Franks, President
Raft River Resources Co., Ltd.
P.O. Box 70
Vavenby, B.C. Canada V0E 3A0
Dear Carl:

I am sending a list of the mining claims that I have accumulated through use of the Universal Antenna Rod. I sold one claim last week to Cominco Ltd. that had 15% zinc and one for gold and copper to Cominco as well. As you can see I have more claims than I can work.

Charles Harris
Rt. 3, Box 3156
Grandview, WA
Dear Sir:

An oldtimer had told me about an old house place where he was positive some silver coins were buried. We went there late in the evening but the wind was up to where it was difficult to use the rod with the "L" handle. So I quickly changed to the fibre handle and to my surprise it picked up the rays quite soon. We dug down about 2 feet and recovered a small jar with silver dollars in it.

Russ Simmons
The Institute of Dowsing
414 Biscayne
Wilmington, NC 28405
Dear Carl:

As you know I am using your PMR-II along with the Precision-Master Rod in all of the institute's dowsing seminars. I have to admit that the PMR-II is superior in terms of range and accuracy to any instrument I have used. I use the PMR-II for all of my own projects.

Harry F. Armstrong Jr.
78 Union Ave.
West Haven, CT 06516
Dear Mr. Anderson:

Shortly after I received my instrument I found a small rusted tin can containing 5 gold coins. They were buried about a foot deep. As reported to you before, your machine helped me find my wife's diamond ring which had been lost for about six months. On the beaches I have found several rings, a gold watch and a diamond ring. On one trip I found a coffee can filled with coins totaling about $100.

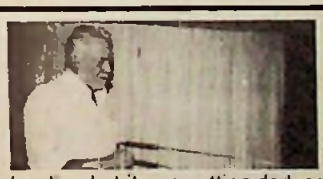
Chuck Oldendorph
2504 Hagen Dr.
Alhambra, Calif. 91803
Hello Carl Anderson:
With the instrument I bought from you I found a quart jar of old silver coins buried next to an old house foundation. Another time I was able to find a crude gold ingot buried in an old long-gone mining town in the desert. I have made other finds but they are still incomplete.

Willard C. Franks, Oil - Geology
Box 62
Briggsdale, CO 80611
Dear Mr. Anderson:

Before seeing your Universal Antenna Rod, I would never have believed the demonstration I witnessed at the Frank's No. 1 well in Weld County, Colo. We drilled exactly where your instrument indicated and successfully completed the well in both the "J" Sandstone and Hygiene SS payzones. What we were able to do with your instrument will amaze you.

Dallas Poston
9537 Sara Street
Elk Grove, CA 95624
Dear Mr. Anderson:

I have located a great number of quartz veins bearing gold, silver and copper and in one instance platinum and paladium. I have also located extensive oil pools. I have proved that it can be used to locate most any mineral, liquid or buried treasure. I use it almost daily on my mining property which I operate during the summer months. In over forty years of working in the mineral and petroleum industry I have never seen anything that will equal it for dependability.



William B. Dunn
202 N. Cordelia
Magnolia, AK 71753
Mr. Carl Anderson:
One afternoon a Mrs. Walters called me to say daughter had lost a diamond pendant while mowing the lawn. I went over there and found location but it was getting dark and I could not find it in the grass. So I staked of three-foot circle for her where it was. The next morning the girl took a brush and combed the area I laid out and found the pendant in minutes. Not too long ago I trad my UAR in on your Precision-Master Rod and it is more sensitive and works better me. In fact it is the best instrument I have ever used.

L. F. Howe
Rt. 1 Box 5102
Weldom, CA 93283

By using the Universal Antenna Rod to prospect on my claims I have found 2 veins of silver containing 11 to 15 oz. silver, 120 pounds of lead and 25 to 160 pounds of copper. I also used the UAR to find a good deposit of rare earths. The assay was Cerium 12.8 to 25.2 oz., Neodymium, 3.2 to 12.8 oz. per ton plus 3 others in smaller quantities, all very valuable.

Fred and Zelma Goss
1237 So. Dogwood
Okmulgee, OK 74447
Dear Carl:

We have found too many things to mention in this letter with our Universal Antenna Rod. I have several things that I have found, here at my house if anyone cares to see them, such as a 23 pound hand forged brass bell and two silver bars that I found on the South Canadian River. I also found a small beautifully engraved solid silver antique jewelry box.

These are excerpts from longer letters; the originals are available in my office for inspectio

Write for my free brochure explaining how my dowsing instruments work

CARL ANDERSON

P.O. Box 270270 -W Tampa Florida 33688

CIRCLE NO. 1 ON READER SERVICE COUPON

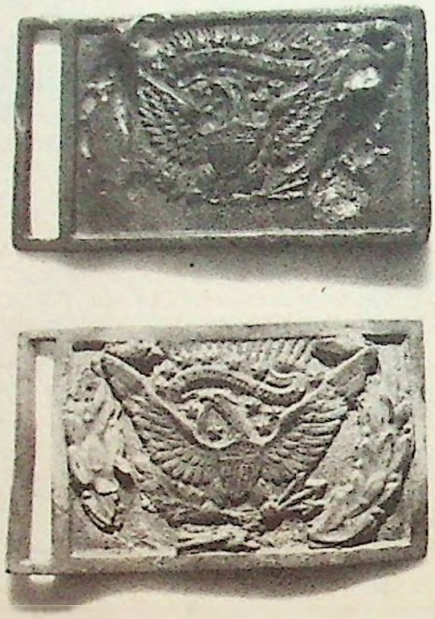
The author dug this scarce variety of "C.S." tongue and wreath buckle at Gen. Bragg's headquarters camp south of Corinth, Mississippi.

Here are the three sizes of the common "U.S." oval buckle, which start at $55 in value.

the state militias were the equivalent of the modern state National Guards that were in existence since before the Civil War. Just about every state, except my home state of Tennessee, had its own state seal buckle. Prior to the Civil War Tennessee had designed its state seal, but it was not officially adopted till the 1870s. The majority of the Yankee militia buckles just use letter abbreviations, such as "O.V.M." for Ohio Volunteer Militia, "V.M.M." for Volunteer Maine Militia, and "S.N.Y." for State of New York. These buckles run in value from $250 to $450. A few, such as Pennsylvania and Ohio, also used the state seal on a buckle. The Pennsylvania state seal is a depiction of two horses rearing against a shield with "R.B." for Reserve Brigade underneath. The Ohio state seal is a riverboat with mountains and a sun depicted. These two buckles are worth $600 to $800.

A few varieties of lettered Confederate militia plates were made: "A.V.C." for Alabama Volunteer Corps; "S.C." for South Carolina; and "N.C." for North Carolina. But the majority carried the state seal. Some of them are real works of art. The Louisiana state seal shows a mother pelican in her nest feeding her young. The Georgia state seal is a three-columned arch with the words "Constitution, Justice, Wisdom and Moderation" and mountains in the background. The Alabama state seal is an unrolled scroll with the map of Alabama on it. The Mississippi state seal buckle bears either a spread wing eagle or a five-pointed star. Texas also used a five-pointed star. South Carolina used a palmetto tree with two shields leaning against it. And Virginia used a Roman-like soldier holding a sword with the motto "Sic Semper Tyrannis." Although Tennessee had no state seal buckle, a buckle does exist that might be attributed to it, the Volunteer State. It is an oval with a "V" in the center. The "V" could signify the Volunteers of Tennessee, but it might also stand for the Roman numeral "5," for Virginia, or for the Voltigeurs, which were mounted riflemen. These Confederate state seal buckles start in value at $800 and range up to $3,500. Yes, indeed, they are a treasure you will want to find.

The third variety of buckle is the two-piece tongue and wreath buckles. They are found in the general service, state militia and miscellaneous categories. The great majority of them are cast out of solid brass. The left-hand section is an oak leaf or laurel wreath with a connected belt loop. The right-hand section is an oak leaf or laurel wreath with a connected belt loop. The right-hand section is referred to as the spoon. It is a disc with the design on it connected to a belt loop. The disc is usually solid cast with the belt loop, though on the finer quality ones the disc is stamped separately with dies and then soldered or sweated to the belt loop. The most common variety has the disc with some variety of "C.S." cast into it. These range in value from $425 to $750. The Yankee varieties have either an eagle or "U.S." on the disc and are in the $200 range. State seal varieties range from $400 for the Northern to $3,000 for the Southern states. One of the scarcest and most unusual



Most Yankee officers wore a rectangular eagle sword belt plate—some with laurel wreaths, some without.

tongue and wreath buckles is the rectangular "C.S." supposedly made by Leech & Rigdon, who also made Confederate swords. Supposedly only five exist, and one of them is still on the original belt and uniform. One was dug in Cassville, Georgia, and another in North Carolina. A conservative value would be $2,000. In the Virginia theater the tongue and wreath buckles are more common than the rectangular "C.S.A." buckles, but in the Deep South (west of the Appalachian Mountains) they are very scarce.

The final variety, the frame and plain sheet brass, is the least valuable of the buckles and is

(Continued on page 51)

ALL CIVIL WAR BUCKLES ARE APPRECIATING IN VALUE RAPIDLY

Q&A dept

(Continued from page 14)

treasure hunters have searched here for the treasure. Another version of this incident says that Marr was on his way to Agua Fria, carrying the gold in his saddlebags, when he was drowned. If so, the gold was lost in the stream, but this version has often been discounted.

At a place on the Tuolumne River, known at the time as Hawkins Bar, a miner called "Old Hawkins" buried pickle jars full of gold under the floor of his cabin, which was a favorite hiding place in those days. Years after his death, this information became known, but nobody knew exactly where his cabin had been. Even the exact location of Hawkins Bar is apparently unknown today.

In 1853, another miner, a Frenchman named Leon Leipe, was stabbed to death in his cabin near the edge of Curtisville for the gold he had hidden. However, his killer failed to find it, and neither has anyone else.

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—Product Report in *"Treasure Search"* Magazine, June, 1981

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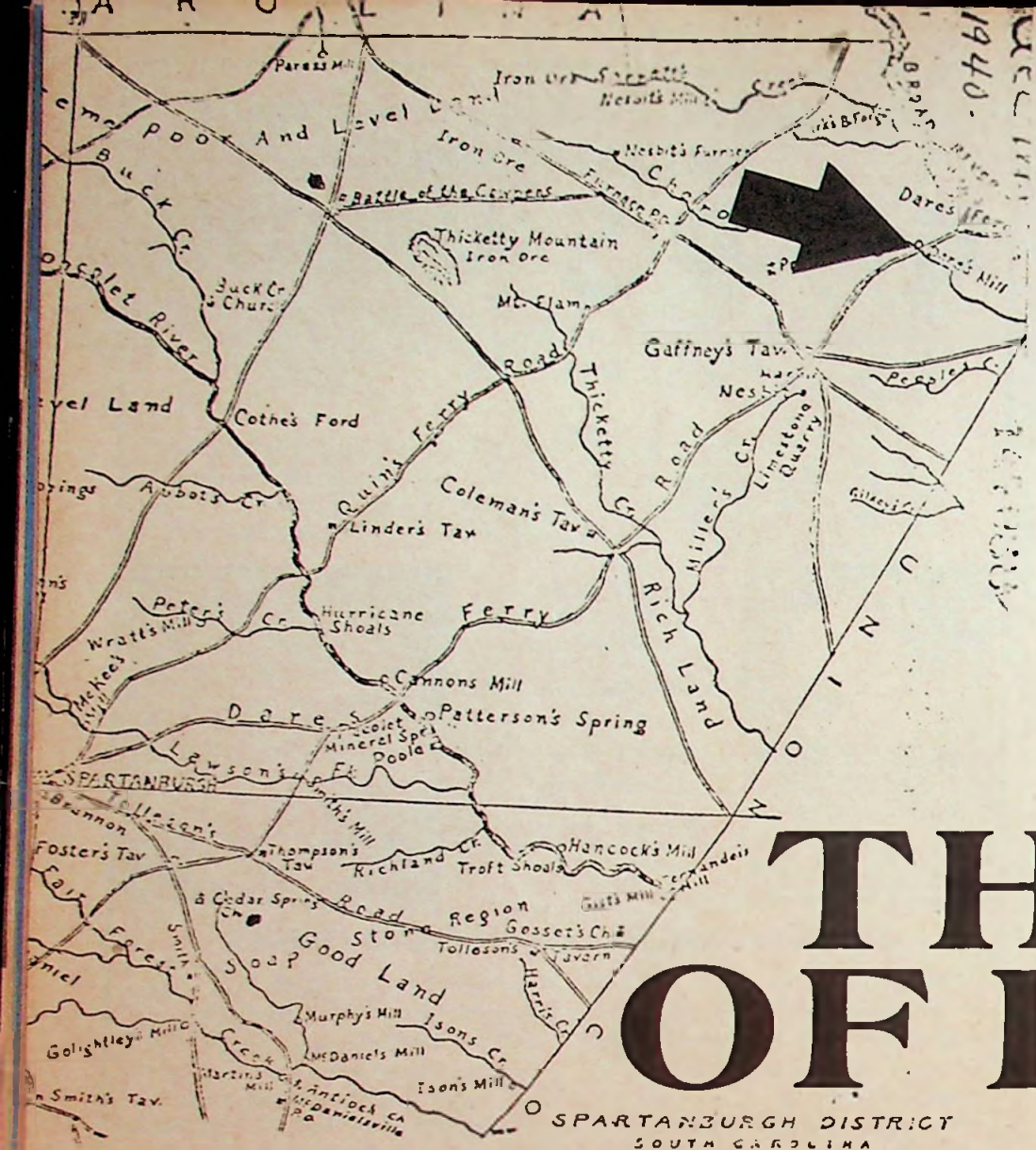

The renegade Confederate soldiers buried their gold on the west bank of the Broad River near the old Dare's Ferry landing.

ONE REC
AWAIT C

THE GO
OF DARI

By Jerry Williams

One very hot day last June, I received a phone call from Cecil Poole. Mr. Poole said he heard I write about lost treasure and he knew of a story that had been passed down from the Civil War. He wondered if I would be interested in it. The next day, I met with Mr. Poole at a local shopping center. I introduced myself and he told me just to call him Cecil. A farmer and prospector, Cecil was forced to retire a few years ago at age seventy due to failing health.

Cecil soon got to the story. He said he had some kin folks that fought in the Civil War and they all came home empty-handed, except for Miles Poole. Miles had been a private in the cavalry, and after the war he bought land and lived like a real gentleman. Cecil's father once told him that Miles always gave the children a five-dollar gold coin for each of their birthdays. Miles died in 1902, but before his death, he told how he became so wealthy.

At the end of the Civil War, Miles Poole had helped guard a warehouse in Washington, Georgia, that held a lot of gold. Some of it, Confederate President Jefferson Davis brought from Richmond while fleeing from Union troops. The rest was from a bank in Richmond that shipped its gold with the Confederate treasury to keep it out of the hands of Federal forces. (Records show the bank shipped $200,000 in gold coin and bullion south with President Davis.)

Miles said a Captain Parker had the guards load the crates of gold and bullion on wagons early one morning. Then the captain told them to go home because the war was lost, that General Lee had surrendered. Miles and the other guards noted that two wagons went south and the other wagon went northeast. This single wagon had been disguised to look like one of the wagons used by apple vendors from the mountains of North Carolina. The wagon was covered with canvas and had a few apple crates in it.

Miles and the rest of the guards got their few belongings and left on horseback about an hour after the bankers had left. They had ridden a few miles when the sergeant leading the men said it didn't seem right that all that gold should be returned to Richmond. "We won't have anything when we get home." All the men then agreed to relieve the bankers of some of their gold. The sergeant sent one man ahead to keep an eye on the bankers and their wagon and to report back after the bankers had made camp for the night. At dusk, the trooper came back and reported the bankers were at a plantation a few miles ahead. They had put the wagon in a large corral. As far as he could tell, they didn't even post a guard.

At about eleven o'clock that

SINCE MILES WAS THE ONLY SURVIVOR, HE KNEW THE

OVERED—MANY MORE ACHE HUNTERS

night, Miles and the other men rode to the plantation and went right to the unguarded wagon.

They loaded all they could on to the horses. Some of the men put so much gold on their horses that they couldn't even carry it and had to drop it on the ground. As they rode off, they could hear men shouting and shots ringing out. Miles said they rode all night, stopping only to rest their horses. At daybreak they came to the small town of Calhoun Falls, South Carolina, where they split up. Six of the men went north, towards Tennessee. Miles and three other men went northeast towards Charlotte, North Carolina, but first rode to before the whole town found out about the gold. They rode all that day in the pouring rain to Gaffney, South Carolina, where they found out the Broad River was flooding and the only way to cross it was at Dare's Ferry. Not wasting any time, they left for the ferry, but when they got to the landing, they found out the ferry had washed away in the swift water. Afraid they were being followed, they decided to bury their loot and return to Gaffney until the river subsided enough to cross. Miles said each man went alone to hide his share of the gold.

After everyone had finished, they headed back towards

After Cecil finished his story, he told me that through the years a lot of the family had looked for the gold, and the only one to have any luck was his brother, who found a small gold bar back in 1932.

It was stamped by an assayer, and on the bottom it read "Richmond Virginia 1860." That bar was all that was ever found. Cecil felt he was getting old, so he wanted to share the story with others. He thought someone might get lucky if they knew about the buried treasure. The gold couldn't be far from the old Dare's Ferry landing because all the men buried their shares in less than an hour. Miles said he had buried his close to a large

OLD CACHES E'S FERRY

Greenwood, South Carolina, where they bought a wagon to conceal the gold. They later stopped in Spartanburg, South Carolina, to get some repairs made on one of the wagon wheels. While at the livery stable, the blacksmith told them they would have to unload the wagon so he could remove the wheel, and during the unloading, some of the gold fell from a sack. They didn't think anyone saw it at the time.

With the repairs finished, they decided to leave the next morning for Charlotte, even though it had been raining for the past two days. That night they took turns guarding the wagon just to be sure no one got nosey. The next morning before leaving they stopped at a tavern, where they overheard some men talking about a wagon load of gold at the livery. When they heard this, they decided they had better leave Gaffney, where they were met by a detachment of Federal troops from Spartanburg. A young lieutenant told them it was reported they had gold on the wagon, and they were sent to find out where it came from. The Federal troops were looking for the Confederate treasury and thought this was part of it. One thing led to another, and one of the men was pushed from the wagon. Shots rang out from all sides.

After the battle was over, Miles and one other man were wounded. The other two were dead. The Federal troops carried them to Gaffney, where the other wounded man died. Miles said the troops thought he would die also, and so left him at the home of a doctor, where he recovered after three months. Miles knew the other men's gold was still buried near Dare's Ferry. He said he looked for it a few times, but didn't have any luck.

rock about one-fourth of a mile from the old ferry landing.

To get to Dare's Ferry landing, you take Highway U.S. 29 (this is the old Dare's Ferry road) to Gaffney. At Gaffney take South Carolina Road 18 to the Broad River. The road crosses the river at the old Dare's Ferry Landing. □

Each man in the party buried his gold alone.

OTHER MEN'S GOLD MUST STILL BE NEAR THE LANDING

PONY EXPRESS LETTERS

(Continued from page 12)

Michael,

The best source we know of is **Guide to Cartographic Records in the National Archives**, *a 400-plus page book listing maps held by many government agencies. One section—titled "Fortifications Map File, Army Engineers"—describes maps and plans for most forts and camps in the United States from 1790 to 1941.*

In case you can't find the book in a local library, you can obtain a copy by sending a $12.50 check to the following: National Archives, Technical Service Branch, 8th & Pennsylvania Avenue N.W., Washington, DC 20408. Make the check payable to "National Archives Trust Fund."

—Ed.

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(Continued from page 6)

88031) and what was probably the first attempt at a comprehensive list, Thomas Penfield's **Treasure Signs & Symbols** (1973, True Treasure Publications, Conroe, Texas; although out of print, we've noticed from their catalogs and advertisements that this work is still available through book dealers specializing in treasure material).

There are also a couple of handy pamphlets: Thomas P. Terry's "A Pocket Guide to Treasure Signs" (1977, Specialty Publishing Co., P.O. Box 1355, La Crosse, WI 54602) and "Treasure Signs & Symbols" (issued in 1983 by Microtech Products, Box 8561, Waco, TX 76710). Nor should we forget Michael Paul Henson's six-page chapter on treasure symbols in his book **America's Lost Treasures** (1984, Jayco Publishing Co., P.O. Box 1511, South Bend, IN 46634) or Francis Parry's **Secret Symbols & Numbers of Aboriginal America** (1976, Frontier Book Co., Fort Davis, Texas; also out of print but available from some of the aforementioned book dealers). Parry's work, a short anthropological study written in 1894, deals with Indian religious symbols and is therefore only obliquely related to treasure ciphers, but will nevertheless be of interest to those who want all information impinging on the subject. Besides Roy Roush—author of our "Q & A Dept.," who has supplied many excellent interpretations of markings readers have discovered in the field—we wonder what writer or work we have neglected on this list. Let us know, and we'll publish the information in our next issues.

In the meantime, we hope readers enjoy the excellent metal detecting that comes with these final weeks of the vernal equinox, spring! With the moisture in the ground enhancing signals and the invigoration of soft temperatures, there's a good chance of a great find. □

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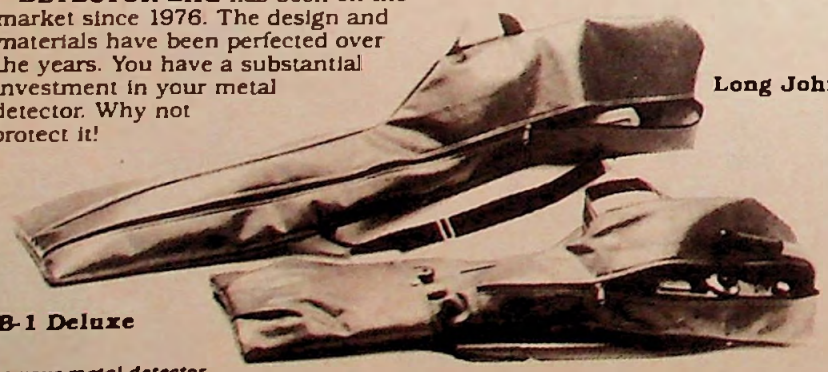

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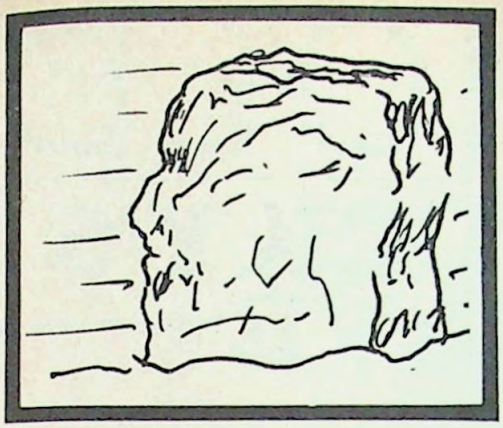

(Continued from page 11)

we worked, as we could hang onto the rock.

About the time we struck "bedrock" the sides of our hole began to show signs of loosening so that they had to be watched closely. We found an occasional 50-pound boulder in the side that could be dislodged with a very slight punch, so we put in a few cross braces to hold suspicious looking ones. Even a 10-pound rock dropping a few feet might cripple a man. When we started shooting the shaley rock, the concussion seemed to be loosening the bouldery wall considerably, and the old man hesitated about mucking out after a shot. So, after that I began to do most of the mucking and let him pack the buckets up the incline.

We had blasted down about 2 feet into the "bedrock" when the old man finally took a hand at mucking out again. He had hardly begun when about a ton of gravel and boulders broke loose from the side near the bottom, and he had to jump out pretty damned quickly. It kind of turned my stomach over when I saw that happen. When the old man refused to go on with his shift, I began to visualize what might happen if a couple of tons came down from higher up. So, I decided I didn't want any more mucking out either, and we quit right there at the most interesting point. I wanted to put in a lot of timbering and continue, but the old man didn't think it was feasible, and perhaps he was right. I was disappointed enough to quit altogether, but he began to think that he could find an easier entrance. After nosing around for a day, he decided on a spot about 50 feet down the hill from the first hole, and there we began the second one. (End of Part I.) □

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BUTTONMOLD

CLUES TO KENTUCKY'S TREASURE CAVE

By Michael Paul Henson

The major attraction the first explorers found in what is now Bullitt County, Kentucky, was the large salt licks, used for hundreds of years by the Indians and buffalo. A group of white hunters first visited the "licks" in 1779, and thereafter at least two Indian battles took place here, with several people being killed on both sides, during the 1780s. (Salt River was later named because of these "licks.")

The first settlers moving into the area discovered an Indian living alone on a high ridge, later known as "Buttonmold Knob," so named because of the large number of fossils found nearby. Crinoids that date back over a million years are plentiful, and the Indians used them to make beads for necklaces and wrist bands, since they are circular in shape with a hole in the center.

What first aroused the suspicion of the settlers concerning the Indian was his living alone and seldom being seen to leave the Knob. When he traded some silver trinkets to a settler for salt, it caused the settlers to think the Indian might be one of the Shawnee that helped to hide a huge fortune in silver when General George Rogers Clark destroyed their villages of Old Chillicothe and Piqua Town, on the Miami and Mad Rivers in what is now Ohio, in 1780. The Indians subsequently scattered all over the Ohio Valley. Although white men learned of the hidden silver a short time after the battle, they could never learn its location.

Finally one of the salt workers, who had been with General Clark's army and had taken part in the attack on the Ohio Indian villages, recognized the Indian as being one of Black Hoof's, the Shawnee chief's braves. This fact alone would have made the settlers kill him.

When several of the settlers went to the Knob to question the Indian, he admitted having hidden some gold and silver, but would not reveal its location, or where he had obtained it. The white men therefore decided to torture the truth from him. During the process, however, the Indian was killed, so the location was never learned.

In looking around the Knob, the men found several strange symbols that the Indian had carved into the rocks. There was no tent or shelter of any kind found, and no sign of where a campfire had been. This led the settlers to believe the Indian had lived in a hidden cave somewhere around the Knob. They searched, but neither the cave nor the gold and silver were ever found.

Several of the symbols have almost disappeared, because of erosion, but the two the settlers believed indicated the treasure are still there. Dr. Fred Coy of Louisville, Kentucky, whose hobby is photographing Indian carvings throughout the Midwest, tells me he found another boot and crown symbol carved in rock on the Rockcastle River in central Kentucky. It is believed the symbol is Shawnee and means one of two things, something hidden in a cave, or it points to the burial site of treasure.

This is a perfect treasure for a hunter with a deep seeking metal detector and some knowledge of caves and how to locate them. Here is how to reach the site: go southwest from Louisville, Kentucky, on Preston Highway to South Park Road, turn right and go to Blue Lick Road, turn left and go to Hutcherson Lane, turn right, go about 100 yards to Barricks Road, turn left until you come to a barricade across the road, and park here. Walk about 300 yards straight ahead, and you will find a path that leads up the hill to your right, directly to the rocks on top of the ridge.

SOURCES

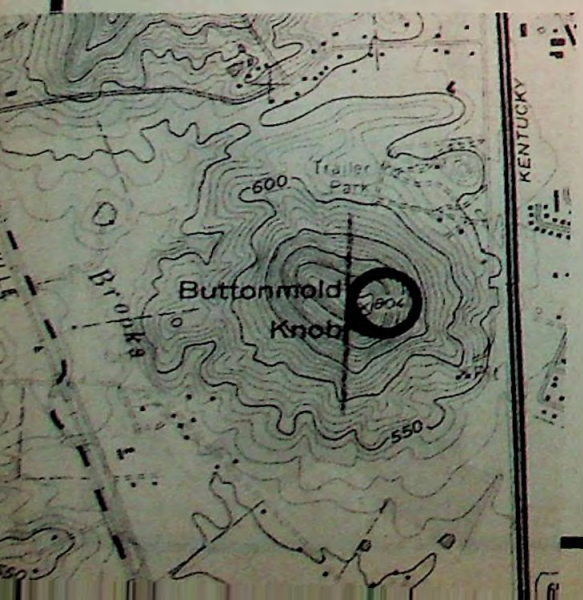
Emmett McDowell, Filson Club, 118 West Breckenridge, Louisville, KY 40203.

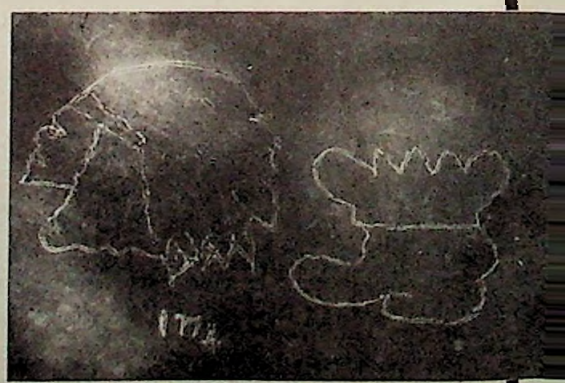
Thomas Peacock, Shepherdsville, Kentucky.

Dr. Fred E. Coy, Medical Arts Building, 1169 Eastern Parkway, Louisville, KY 40217.

Museum of Natural History and Science, 727 W. Main St., Louisville, KY 40202. □

Buttonmold Knob is located about twenty miles south of Louisville in Bullit County.





The two Buttonmold symbols, which I traced in chalk, face almost due east and were cut into the stone with a sharp instrument; below the symbols is what looks to be a date, "1774."

DAN UPSON'S RIVER BANK BONANZA

(Continued from page 31)

embossed monogrammed Oregon Importing Company whiskey, cobalt blue Laxol containers, large Owl Drug Store prescription bottles, and the rectangular bitters bottles.

Our first joint effort had resulted in old bottles by the bagful. The second and third trips were almost as good. Dan and I were wearing ourselves out swimming with the heavy bags. There had to be a better way.

The next time we anchored a boat just out from the bottle lode. It worked. We moved out from the boat in all directions and swam our finds back to a helper on board.

Eventually, the discoveries dwindled. We were seeing the same passed-over catsup and unembossed beer bottles we had examined before. Dan went back to searching for promising sites.

Yes, there are a few others. But, they have proven nothing to compare with Dan Upson's original riverbank bonanza.

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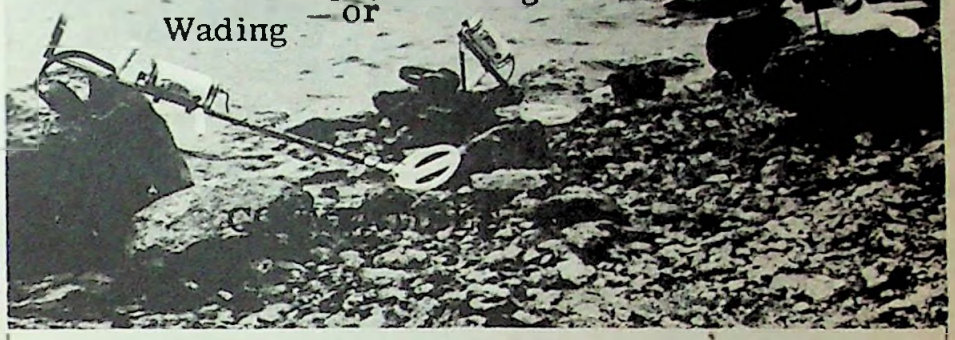

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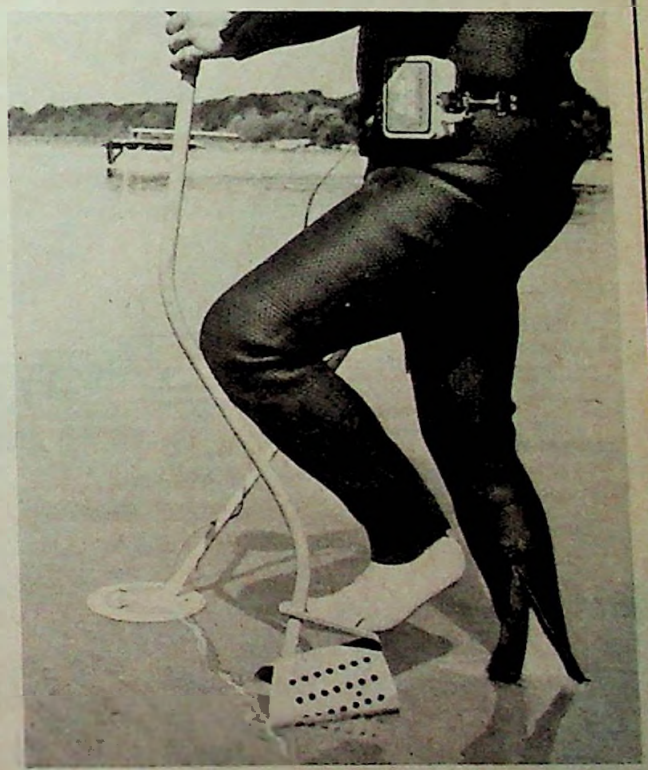

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BUCKLE

(Continued from page 42)

almost exclusively Confederate, both in manufacture and use. The only variety that can be considered Yankee is the rifleman's buckle, which was made in the North prior to the war. Many of them were stored in Southern arsenals prior to the war and were captured by the Confederates when hostilities broke out in 1861. It is a two-piece interlocking frame with two separate load carrying brass loops.

The most common frame buckle of Confederate manufacture is the Georgia frame. It is a rectangular frame with one vertical bar that the belt is sewn around. One border has two teeth pointing towards the interior. The cavalry style has a solid smooth frame with two triangular teeth on it. The infantry type has a guttered frame with two longer sharp teeth protruding towards the interior. The Georgia frames are valued around $150.

The other type of frame buckle is referred to as the forked tongue variety. It is aptly named because the tongue looks like a snake's tongue. The frame is a horizontal rectangular frame, with a single vertical bar, which has the forked tongue attached to it. It comes in large, medium and small varieties. There is also a variety that has two separate tongues instead of the single forked tongue. These buckles are also in the $125 to $150 value range, with the double tongue style worth about $250.

The sheet brass buckles are nothing more than a rectangular piece of sheet brass with belt hooks attached to the reverse. The corners may be square, rounded or clipped, and the size may vary from 2 x 3 inches to 3 x 4 inches. Valuewise they are on the lower end of the scale - $35 to $50. Of course, if the soldier's name and/or unit is engraved on the face, the value will increase accordingly.

Civil War accoutrement plates are one of the most collectible of Civil War artifacts. They are beautiful, can be artistically displayed, and are easily stored at home or in a safety deposit box. Best of all, if you are investment conscious, they rank number one in that category also. □

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CIRCLE NO. 53 ON READER SERVICE COUPON

Old sites deserve special attention, for once you've cleared them, the coins hiding below the trash will pop up in a regular manner.

A GU DET

MASTER HUNTER ON THE NEW

So you've just purchased your first detector, a latest state-of-the-art VLF discriminator. I envy you, in a way. Even though I have been coinshooting and relic hunting for over ten years, I can still remember the excitement of those first glorious moments with a detector.

All the buried riches of the world seem to be at your disposal, thanks to the "X-ray vision" of that fabulous new machine. Then, sometime soon after, the honeymoon ends. You've gotten over the initial thrill, and you're in the doldrums of digging what strikes you as a hundred pulltabs and other pieces of trash to every coin, most of which seem to be 1980s Memorial pennies only an inch or two deep. You see in the magazines that other hunters are coming up with hoards of old, deep coins, and you begin to doubt you'll ever reach that magical level of expertise allowing you to garner such riches. But you can, you know, and I sincerely hope you do, for once you progress beyond the initial learning stages, you'll find that old excitement returning and again experience many more of those glorious moments. All it takes is a little patience and practice, and to help you on your way, I would like to offer the following basic guide to VLF detecting, both coinshooting and relic hunting.

I'll cover coinshooting first since it is the hardest part of metal detecting. I like to use peak sensitivity when conditions permit, so I turn this control all the way up. I put the hunt mode switch in VLF discrimination and set the discrimination knob to reject nails, tinfoil, and iron bottlecaps.

Start your searching by swinging left to right in about a two-foot-long path, taking about one to two seconds per swing. Develop a short, slow swing if possible since I've found this method produces the best results. Remember to cover each swing path twice, once on the left swing, once back on the right swing. Use earphones and concentrate very hard on hearing each signal. Sometimes notice that you will get a good signal when passing the searchcoil to the left of a target and no signal when passing the coil over the target to the right. After awhile you will learn that this is mostly trash, because as you swing over the target several times the signal will eventually disappear. Ignore these signals and the "ticky tick" "scratchy" or "broken up" type sounds, which is the machine using its discrimination feature. A good target, even the deep ones, will be firm on both passes of the searchcoil. After a little experience using the unit, you will understand what I'm saying about the kinds of sounds trash signals make.

Almost everyone I teach to metal detect asks me how to pinpoint a target. This may be the hardest thing to learn, especially in coinshooting, regardless of the type machine you are using. A coin from the surface to 3 inches deep has about the same fairly strong tone or sound level if the coil is close to the ground. When you hit a signal, you should therefore raise the searchcoil as you swing it back and forth above the target. I've found that, if the sound level stays strong at 3 to 4 inches above the target, it is usually on the surface. If the sound diminishes at 1 inch, it is 3 inches deep; if it diminishes at 2 inches, it is at about the 2-inch level; if it becomes less audible at 3 inches, it is around one inch deep.

Having determined approximate depth, swing the searchcoil over the target in a slower and slower motion until the sound is loudest. Your target should be directly under the small bullseye on your searchcoil. I make a "V" shaped cut with a long screwdriver and pull out the dirt, which usually contains the target. I won't go entirely into this or other methods of recovery since they vary so

By Joe Henderson

IDE TO VLF ECTING

TIPS FROM A GENERATION OF DETECTORS

much with so many hunters. I would suggest, however, that you learn a good recovery method in your own yard before venturing into others. Practice target pinpointing, also, since a coin or other object **on edge** can cause a problem. You will learn to overcome this problem too if you use the detector on a regular basis of about twice a week.

If you find yourself hunting a site that is highly trashy, try the following technique. With your discrimination set as suggested above, dig the first 20 or 30 targets to determine what kind of junk or trash you are finding. Are most finds pulltabs? If so, turn your setting to eliminate these. Are most finds, however, aluminum bottlecaps? Then turn your setting still higher. You will still dig deep aluminum pulltabs or bottlecaps but notice that most signals are now coin finds. When you feel comfortable at a setting, be it low or high, then continue hunting that site the rest of the day at the level you have decided on. Don't keep adjusting your discrimination as it will only cause more problems, which may cause you to become uninterested in the hunt.

Remember one thing, however. If hunting an **old** site, dig each signal even if a day's haul is five or ten coi[illegible]nd 500 pieces of trash. Af[illegible] have cleared a site, the [illegible]ding below the trash wil[illegible]n in a regular [illegible]not for [illegible] To [illegible]ite over and over and be satisfied with what the day's count will bring. I know. I've hunted one old park in my area for ten years, and only in the past year have the older coins outnumbered the trash.

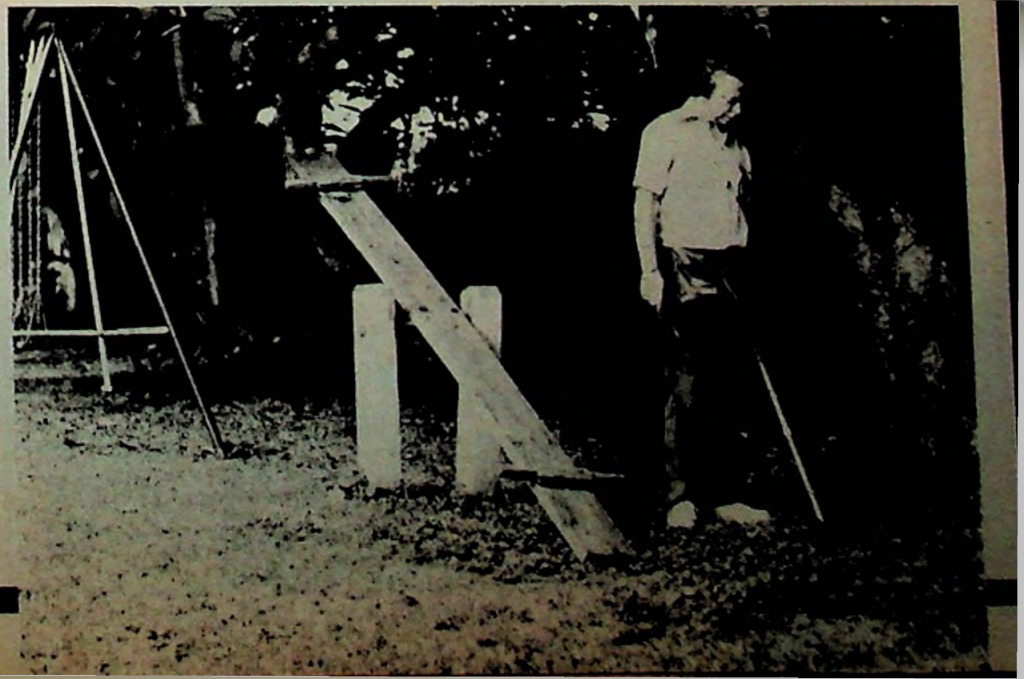
Your discrimination setting is very important because, once you have mastered it and properly selected the right setting for the areas you will be hunting, your success will improve greatly.

Now for a few tips on relic hunting. For those of you who prefer to hunt battlefields, campsites and the like, all you have to do is turn your hunting mode switch to the all-metals position. Sweep the searchcoil about four inches off the ground and in a faster, longer sweep than you would use in coinshooting. The reason for this is that the all-metals mode is highly sensitive to nails, pins, tinfoil, and other ferrous or rusting type metals. (Don't attempt to use it in coinshooting.)

If nails or other small objects become a problem, continue to hunt in the all-metals mode, but turn back to VLF discrimination to check the piles of dirt you have dug up. If you set the detector to barely eliminate small bits of iron,

OFTEN YOU CAN DETERMINE A TARGET'S DEPTH BY LIFTING THE COIL AND SEEING WHERE THE SOUND STARTS TO DIMINISH

A good target, even a deep one, will produce a firm sound on both passes of the searchcoil. Practicing with your detector once or twice a week, you will soon learn to pinpoint accurately and recover targets quickly, even those problem coins that sit on edge.



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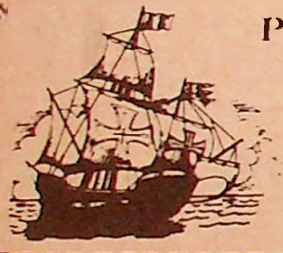

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a small button or bullet will still be easy to find, as well as large iron objects. Again, practice until you become familiar with the detector.

To sum up, for **coinshooting**. 1. Use VLF discrimination hunting mode to eliminate nails, tinfoil and iron bottlecaps.

2. Set sensitivity control as high as possible.

3. Make short left to right sweeps, covering each area once to the left, once to the right.

4. Hold searchcoil about one inch off the ground.

5. Dig all targets unless highly trashy. If trash become too much of a problem, set discrimination to reject the most common trash item, and dig all targets. You will lose gold rings and nickels most likely, but this is the price to pay for finding more coins.

6. Cover holes completely.

7. Read operator's manual, which will help you with problems I might have missed.

For **relic hunting**. 1. Use VLF all-metals mode.

2. Sweep faster, in a longer sweep with the searchcoil higher off the ground.

3. Cover holes completely even if you are far back in the boondocks!

4. Read operator's manual.

If you read the instructions I've given you here, you can improve your hunting skills to a certain extent. But you have to use a detector often to become really proficient with it and to find your share of those lost treasures. I've helped many people become interested in the hobby by magazine articles and TV programs. Those that have taken my advice and continued hunting—even when it seemed nothing could be found—have hundreds of coins, pieces of jewelry, relics, and other artifacts to display and be proud of. Those that gave up after a few outings have only a detector collecting dust in their closet to show for their money spent and time used. Remember no one has ever found very many treasures while sitting in front of their televisions thinking about how "lucky" other treasure hunters are. The treasures are still out there, waiting for you or me to find them. Proof of this is that 1984 turned out to be one of my most productive years. Practice a couple times a week, and you'll find that all those buried riches truly are at your disposal. □

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INDIANA:Anderson, Pat's Metal Detectors, RR #7, Box 145, 46011. (317-378-0475); **Decatur**, C-D Western Store, Robert A. Everett, RR #5, 46733. (219-724-2097); **Gas City**, Phil's Enterprises, 915 E. N.H. St., 46933. (317-674-5803); **Hammond**, J&J Coins, 7019 Calumet Ave., 46324. (219-932-5818); Indianapolis, The Prospector's Pouch, Midwest Treasure Hunting Headqrts., 246 S. Butler Ave., 46219. (317-356-7343); **Kokomo**, The Prospector's Pouch, Midwest Treasue Hunting Headqrts., 5502 Arrowhead Blvd., 46902. (317-453-5566); **Oaklandon**, Pioneer Metal Detector, 11901 E. 65th St., 46236. (317-823-4202/898-4510); **Portland**, Silver Dollar Metal Detectors/Allen Towell, RR 5, Box 81, 47371. (219-726-2455); **Seymour**, Wray's Treasure Shop, RR 5, 47274. (812-497-2537); **Waveland**, Chuck's Detector Shop, 118 E. Howard St., 47989. (317-435-2728, after 6PM).

IOWA:Baxter, Richard Cross, 314 S. Main, 50028. (515-227-3391).

KANSAS:Alta Vista, B&D Detectors, RR 2, Box 21, 66834. (316-767-6246); **Colby**, Maurice Rasmussen, 265 W. 6th, 67701. (913-462-2576); **Dodge City**, Carl Clare, 911 3rd Ave., 67801. (316-225-5005/225-4701); **Gridley**, Sam's Electronics, 514 Atherly St., 66852. (316-836-4110). (6AM-10PM); **Pratt**, Epp's Coin Shop, 112 S. Main St., 67124. (316-672-6181/672,6277); **South Hutchinson**, Armstrong Detectors, 117 Forest,

67203, (316-665-8693); **Wichita**, Coin's Etc., 911 Maple, 67213, (316-262-7161).

KENTUCKY:Hodgenville, Double Eagle Ent./W.L. McCoy, 76 Lincoln Sq., 42748, (502-358-3415).

LOUISIANA:Baton Rouge, Confederate States Metal Detector Sales, 2905 Government St., 70806, (504-387-5044); **Metairie**, Southern Treasures, 3409 Metairie Rd. 70001, (504-831-0567); **Shreveport**, Smith-Petty, Inc., 200 E. Kings Hwy. 71104, (318-869-3548); **Slidell**, St. Tammany Detector Sales, 625 Dale Dr., 70458, (504-641-0687/649-1315).

MAINE:Arundel, Tobie's (Car) Radio, Rt 1, 04046, (207-985-6812); **Auburn**, Skin Diver's Paradise, Rt 4, Turner Rd., 04210, (207-782-7739); **Dexter**, Bob's Tackle Co., Rt 2, Box 800, 04930, (207-924-6843); **Waldoboro**, Old Mill Mall Treasure Outfitters, U.S. Rt. 1 & Depot St., 04572, (207-832-4747).

MARYLAND:Arnold, Bay Country Enterprises, 1058 Ulmstead Circle, 21012, (301-974-4999); **Baltimore**, Treasure Detectors of Maryland, 4069 Beach Rd., 21222, (301-477-8827); **Edgewater**, Finders Keepers, John Reichenberg, 3316 Oak Dr., 21037, (301-798-1833).

MASSACHUSETTS:Auburn, Found Enterprises, (617-832-3721); **Buzzards Bay**, Ace TV & Radio, 3161 Cranberry Hwy, Rt. 6&28, 02532, (617-759-4889); **Lowell**, Santry Spas & Pools, 1780 Middlesex St., 01851, (617-454-1230); **Rehoboth**, Larry Violette, Box 74, 02769, (617-252-4497); **West Springfield**, Dumais Electronics Corp., 37 Spring St., 01089, (413-733-9548); **Wilmington**, Jack's Chain Saw Repair, 340 Main St., 01887, (617-658-4115).

MICHIGAN:Bay City, Lafayette Coin Gallery, 607 Lafayette, 48706, (517-894-5021); **Grand Rapids**, Grant's Book Store, 601 Bridge St. NW, 49504, (616-458-6580); **Mt. Pleasant**, Mt. Pleasant Auto Glass & Flag Co., 1001 N. Fancher St., Box 528, 48858, (517-772-1776); **Plainwell**, Curtis Trailer Center Detector Div., 1227 W. M 89, 49080, (616-685-5841); **Temperance**, Treasure Depot, 3591 M-151, 48182, (313-856-1162); **Wayne**, Treasure Nuts Treasure Hut, 35426 John, 48184, (313-595-6758).

MINNESOTA:Bloomington, Mid-West Metal Detectors, 8338 Pillsbury Ave., S., 55420, (612-881-5254); **Britt**, Tall Pines Ent., Rt. 1, Box 438, 55710, (218-741-6739); **Minneapolis**, Rev. John Costas, 2250 Ridge Dr. #31, St. Louis Park, 55416, (612-541-1877); Garrett Metal Detector Specialists, 3249 Nicollet Ave. S., 55408, (612-827-3113); **Rochester**, Mid-West Metal Detectors of Rochester, 1429 8 1/2 Ave SE, 55901, (507-288-3247).

MISSISSIPPI:Jackson, The Talk Shop of Mississippi, Inc., 4966 Hwy. 80 W., 39209, (601-922-8424); **Wiggins**, Fulcher's, 215 Vardaman St., 39577, (601-928-7727).

MISSOURI:California, Twin City Gun & CB, 500 Cooper St., 65018, (314-796-2166); **Desloge**, Smitty's Metal Detector Sales & Accessories, 805 E. Chestnut, 63601, (314-431-0642); **Florissant**, The Prospector's Shack, 975 Grenoble Ln, 63033, (314-837-4703); **Hillsboro**, E&R Detector Sales, P.O. Box 213, 63050, (314-789-2078); **Independence**, Ozark Treasure Chest #1, 1816 Ellison Way, 64050, (816-252-8998); **Joplin**, Frank's Sales & Service, Rt 3, Box 834, 64801, (417-781-6597); **Kansas City**, Clevenger's Metal Detectors, 8206 N. Oak Trfwy., 64118, (816-436-0697); **Springfield**, Radford Jewelers, 1864 S. Glenstone, 65804, (417-881-7308); **St. Joseph**, Stanley Johnson Co., 2607 S. 14th, 64503, (816-232-5163) **Warrensburg**, Ozark Treasure Chest #3, Louie's Farm & Home, 50 Hwy & 13, 64093, (816-747-9196); **Warsaw**, Ozark Treasure Chest #2, Stowe & Son Furniture, 126 Main St., 65355, (816-438-5445).

MONTANA:Billings, D-J Detection Service, Corner King Ave. E. & S. Bldg, 725 S. Billings Blvd. # House, 59101, (406-259-6999); **Missoula**, Electronic Parts, 1030 S. Ave. W., 59801, (406-543-3119); **Ronan**, Western Seed & Supply, Inc., P.O. Box 67, Round Butte Rd., 59864, (406-676-4400).

NEBRASKA:Ames, Research Unlimited, Main St., 68621, (402-727-9833/721-9438); **Sprague**, L.P. Enterprises, Box 46, 1420 W. 3rd St., 68438, (402-794-5730).

NEVADA:Winnemucca, Great Basin Detector Sales, 5815 S. Grass Valley Rd., 89445, (702-623-2643).

NEW HAMPSHIRE:Concord, Don Wilson Sales, 93 S. State St., 03301, (603-224-5909).

NEW JERSEY:Englewood, General Sales Co., 10 Humphrey St., 07631, (201-568-5563); **Pennsauken**, Ted's Engine House, 6307 Westfield Ave., 08110, (609-662-0222); **Toms River**, Kettle Creek Metal Detectors, 106 Woodland Dr., 08753, (201-255-8514); **Wayne**, Mt. View Electric Co. (The Treasure Chest), 866 Rt. 23, 07470, (201-694-0777).

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NEW MEXICO:Aztec, Wooley's Trailer Sales, 635 Aztec Blvd., 87410, (505-334-2871); **Deming**, Grey Eagle Trading Post, 523 N. Gold, 88030 (505-546-4971); **Roswell**, Roswell Treasure Center, #12 Monterey Shopping Ctr. 1400 W. 2nd St., 88201, (505-623-2242).

NEW YORK:Albany, Ken's Metal Detectors, 2 Kenlyn Dr., 12205, (518-459-1165); **Brooklyn**, Ettore & Diana Nannetti Detector Dist., 9203 Flatlands Ave., 11236, (718-649-5872/763-4510); **Fairport**, Lost Coins Ent/Darrell Kilburn, 721 Mosley Rd., 14450, (716-223-2139); **Geneva**, J. Panna's Electronic Sales, P.O. Box 167, 14456, (315-539-8645); **Glen Cove**, H&F Enterprises, 2 Leech Cir S., 11542, (516-676-1310); **Grand Island**, Roy Sexton, Hobbies Unlimited, 1550 Allenton, 14072, (716-773-4969); **Harrison**, Harrison Coin & Jewelry Exchange, 240 Halstead Ave., 10528, (914-835-0616); **Manhattan**, Louis Calamia, 54 E. 8th St., 10003, (212-254-1763); **Pleasant Valley**, Hudson River Metal Detector Sales, Rt. 44, 12569, (914-635-3488); **Syracuse**, Jerry's Treasure Den, 550 Charles Ave., 13209, (315-468-3615); **Walton**, Doc Dave's Treasure Finders, 54 Stockton Ave., Rt. 206, 13856, (607-865-5188).

NORTH CAROLINA:Cary, Leisure Time Products, 532 E. Chatham St., 27511, (919-467-3838 Evenings); **Charlotte**, Ernie "Carolina" Curlee, Detector Sales Co., Division of Chemation, 3201 Cullman Ave., 28206, (704-375-8468/537-5115); **Greenville**, Baker's Sports Equipment, P.O. Box 3106, 27834, (919-756-8840); **Morganton**, Smokefoot Trade & Loan, 138 N. Sterling St., Box 2351, 28655, (704-438-9397); **Statesville**, Carson's Coin & Stamp, 112 N. Center St., 28677, (704-873-9671); **Wilmington**, Stanley's Metal Detector Sales, 5-7 N. Front St., 28401, (919-763-7329); Russ Simmons, 414 Biscayne Dr., 28405, (919-686-7009).

NORTH DAKOTA:Fargo, Treasure Island, West Acres Shopping Ctr. 58103. (701-282-4747).

OHIO:Akron, Bennett's Metal Detectors & Treasure Hunting Supplies. 203 E. Market St., 44308. (216-376-9694). **Baltic**, Sand Hill Supply, Rt. 1, Box 197, 43804. (216-364-3312). **Cincinnati**, Treasure Hunters Supplies. 7416 Hamilton Ave., 45231. (513-729-2084 521-0678). **Fairborn**, Bob's Metal Detector, 1241 Harmony Ln. 45324. (513-879-1270). **Fremont** K&S Metal Detectors. 1323 Sycamore St., 43420. (419-332-9669). **Lewisburg**, Fox Metal Detectors. 8193 Shields Rd., 45338. (513-962-2937). **Painesville**, Snoopie Enterprises. 1038 Bank St., 44077. (216-352-1352). **Pierpont**, G&D Detector Sales. 6500 N. Richmond Rd., SR 6, 44082. (216-577-1496 576-5967). **Shelby**, Struble's Detectors. 31 W. Main St., 44875. (419-342-2136 347-2802). **Wickliffe**, Americoin, 29221 Euclid Ave., 44092-1910. (216-944-0397). **Youngstown**, Ernie's Sales & Service, Inc., 1087 Shady Run Rd., 44502. (216-792-3356).

OKLAHOMA:Ada, Eddie S. Fausett Sales, 2729 Kirby Dr., 74820. (405-332-3156). **Guthrie**, Gabby's Metal Detector Sales & Tall Tales, Rt 5, Box 258, 73044. (405-282-6794). **Muskogee**, Jack's Lean To, 1300 Illinois, 74403. (918-687-5198 after 5PM). **Okeene**, Jim A. Pavlu, Rt 2, Box 118A, 73763. (405-822-4810). **Oklahoma City**, The Hobby Shop, Crossroads Mall #1150, 73149. (405-634-0221), 10AM to 9PM, M-Sat, 1PM to 6PM Sun.; Wayne's Detector Sales & Service, 2708 SW 87, 73159. (405-685-3130). Noon to 9PM, M-F, 10AM to 9PM, Sat.; **Seminole**, Frost Enterprises, Rt 4, Box 89, 74868. (405-382-4659). **Tulsa**, Ace's Detector Service, 5622 S. Pittsburg, 74135. (918-742-2214). **Turpin**, Joe Lawder, RR #1, Box 22, 73950. (405-854-6429). **Tuttle**, Detection Technology, RR #3, Box 211, (Six Mile Line, Squirrel Hollow Sub), 73089. (405-392-4436).

OREGON:Coos Bay, Carla Kay Salvage Co., 471 Bruel St., 97420. (503-888-4015) **Eugene**, Northwest Mining Supply, Inc., 509 Chambers St., 97402. (503-343-6502). **Grants Pass**, Robert Kelly, 5057 Redwood Ave., 97527. (503-479-1767). **Portland**, D&K Detector Sales, 13809 SE Division, 97236. (503-761-1521).

PENNSYLVANIA:Carbondale, Elsuroba City, 33 Maple Ave., 18407. (717-282-6870). **Exeter**, Cap's Recovery, 289 Whitlock St., 18643. (717-693-0793). **Gettysburg**, Gettysburg Electronics, 24 Chambersburg St., 17325. (717-334-8634). **Meadville**, Miller's Treasure & Metal Detectors, RD #1, Pettis Rd., 16335. (814-336-5453). **Milford**, Warren Pedersen, RR 2, Box 381, 18337. (717-296-7285). **Morrisville**, William Case, 316 Harper Ave., 19067. (215-736-1830).

RHODE ISLAND:No. Kingstown, Ocean State Metal Detecting, 135 Juniper Dr., 02852. (401-294-4873, Call First). **Warwick**, House of Bargains, 345 Warwick Ave., 02888. (401-781-8580).

SOUTH CAROLINA:Greenville, Copy Products & Supplies, Inc., 2701 Poinsett Hwy, 29609. (803-232-0794). **Sumter**, Ken Lyles Detectors, 122 Lazy Ln., 29150. (803-775-8840 773-9577).

SOUTH DAKOTA:Rapid City, Donco Metal Detectors, 2424 Canyon Lake Dr., 57702. (605-343-3103).

TENNESSEE:Chattanooga, Hickory Valley Electric Co. & Metal Detector Sales, 6916 Lee Hwy, 37421. (615-892-0525 892-3581). **Johnson City**, Appalachian Detectors, Rt 8, Box 94, 37601. (615-926-5577). **Knoxville**, J.O.B. Sales, 4521 Fawnie Ln., 37918. (615-689-8437 689-3053). **Memphis**, Memphis Numismatics, Inc., 11 S. Orleans at Madison, 38103. (901-526-5054). Mid South Metal Detector Sales, 3190 Summer Ave., 38112. (901-452-8860). **Nashville**, Music City Detector Sales, 1136 Antioch Pike, 37211. (615-834-2320). **Selmer**, Selmer Service Station & Sporting Goods, 100 W. Court Ave., 38375. (901-645-5431).

TEXAS:Amarillo, Art Jurado, (806-372-9762). **Arlington**, Arlington Electronic Service Center, 2908 Pioneer Parkway W., 76013. (817-261-0812). **Austin**, Carter's Metal Detectors, 2103 Whitestone Dr., 78745. (512-444-0106). **Beaumont**, Sanders Sports Shop, Rt 8, Box G-36, 77705. (409-794-2560). **Bracketville**, Ft. Clark Metal Detectors, Hugh V. Smith, Box 986, 78832. (512-563-2904). **Brownwood**, Morgan's Guns & Ammo., 100 Mayes St., 76801. (915-646-3872). **Corpus Christi**, Bayside Metal Detectors, 9245 S. Padre Island Dr., 78418. (512-937-1682/937-5334). **Dallas**, D&B Treasure Outfitters, 11225 Garland Rd, 75218. (214-320-8263). **Del Rio**, Dudley G. Martin Metal Detectors, P.O. Box 117, 78840. (512-775-7781). **Elgin**, Ed's Metal Detectors, 1111 N. Hwy 290, 78621. (512-285-3451). **Ennis**, Joe Krajca & Son Supply, Rt 3, Interstate 45N, 75119, (214-875-6358). **Ft. Worth**, Rex Grove Auto Supply Co., Inc., 4527 E. Belknap, 76117. (817-838-3066). Texas Treasure Hunting Headqtrs, 5604 River Oaks Blvd., 76114. (817-731-4289). **Houston**, Alexander Enterprises, 1312 College Ave., 77587. (713-946-6399). Don Johnson Enterprises, 8223 Glencliffe, 77070. (713-890-3158). Research & Recovery Intl., 2803 Old Spanish Trail, 77025. (713-747-4647). **Irving**, Irving Metal Detectors, 3615 Coker, #117 & 116, 75062. (214-252-5197, 570-7729). **Jacksonville**, Tony's Treasure Hunting Shop, Rt 2, 75766. (214-586-2953). **Orange**, Berry's Detector Sales, 406 S. 43rd St., 77630. (409-886-7343). **San Antonio**, Owens Detector Sales, 5814 Kepler Dr., 78228. (512-434-1605/434-8166). Kelly's Hobby Center, 5514 Walzem Rd., 78218. (512-654-8537, M-F 10:00-6:00, Sat.10:00-5:00). **Sherman**, Awards Unlimited, 1620 Hwy 75N, 75090. (214-892-2202). **Texas City**, Treasure Hunters Supply, 1819 6th St. N (Loop 197), 77590. (409-948-8312). **Tyler**, Treasure Shop (Wayne Boshears), 620 Clyde, 75701. (214-597-1603). **Waco**, Wallace R. Smith, P.O. Box 5422, 76708. (817-848-4773). **Yoakum**, Treasures Unlimited, Rt 4, Box 162, 77995. (512-293-2981).

UTAH:North Salt Lake, Chuck's Enterprises, 121 S. Orchard Dr., 84054. (801-298-7507). **Price**, Don's Detector Den, 810 N. 900 E., 84501. (801-637-5612). **Roy**, Bryant T. Cash, 2457 W 4975 So., 84067. (801-825-7858). **Salt Lake City**, Gallenson's, 220 S. State St., 84111. (801-328-2016). Hardrock Rick's, 4419 S. 2950 E, 84117. (801-277-8523). **West Valley City**, Val's Detector Sales, 3874 S. 2570 W., 84119. (801-968-6883).

VERMONT:Colchester, Richard Manchester, 18 Cedar Ridge Dr., 05446. (802-862-5163).

VIRGINIA:Centreville, Essential Electronics, 5512 Buggy Whip Dr., 22020. (703-631-0884). **Fairfax**, Suburban Detectors, 3169 Spring St., 22030. (703-273-2542). **Virginia Beach**, H&S Detector Center, Thalia Village Shoppes, 184 Boggs Ave., 23452. (804-463-0953).

WASHINGTON:Auburn, Cache Inn Detectors, 17925 SE 313th, 98002. (206-631-0466). **Bremerton**, Alpha Faceting Supply Inc., 1225 Hollis St., Box 2133, 98310. (206-373-3302). **Clarkston**, Long's Prospecting/Treasure Hunting Supplies, 1744 Stafford Dr., 99403. (509-758-2301). **Coulee Dam**, Earl's Inc., Kit Rd., P.O. Box 5, 99116. (509-633-2625). **Port Angeles**, BC Treasures, 1117 Grant Ave., 98362. (206-457-1497). **Seattle**, Intl. Prospectors Supply Div. of Pearl Elect., 312 Dexter Ave. No., 98109. (206-622-6200). **Spokane**, Bowen's Hideout, S. 1823 Mt. Vernon, 99203. (509-534-4004). **West Richland**, Gold Rush Mining Supplies, 4242 Van Giesen, 99352. (509-967-3307).

WEST VIRGINIA:Shady Spring, Ray's Leisure Time Shop, U.S. Hwy 19 & 21, 25918. (304-763-3110).

WISCONSIN:Janesville, Cue & Cushion, 1407-A Creston Pk Dr., 53545. (608-755-0908). **Madison**, The Northwoods General Store, 1325 Greenway Cross, 53713. (608-274-4680). **Milwaukee**, Casanova's, 1601 W. Greenfield Ave., 53204. (414-672-3040). **Ogema**, Silver Spur Lapidary & Gems, Rt.1, Box 276, 54459. (715-564-2606). **Osseo**, Gene's Treasures, Rt. 2, Box 10, 54758. (715-597-3446). **Platteville**, Surplus Store, 55 W. Main St., 53818. (608-348-5656). **Prairie Du Chien**, Barrette's Sales & Service, 609 N. Wacouta Ave., 53821. (608-326-6757). **Waukesha**, Outdoor Outfitters, 705 Elm Ct., 53186. (414-542-7772).

WYOMING:Casper, Caspar Metal Detector Sales & Rentals, 1281 Payne & 1017 Cardiff, 82601. (307-235-6323/5205).

INTERNATIONAL

AUSTRALIA
Carlisle, P.J. Bridge, 65 Oats St., 6101, Western Australia. (09-362-5955/362-5756).

AUSTRIA
Vienna Gustav Schneider, P.O. Box 29, Waisenhorngasse 14, A 1235.

CANADA
ALBERTA:Edmonton, Bedrock Detectors, 10250-82 St., T6A 3M3. (403-469-3050). **Milk River**, Jerry's Detectors, P.O. Box 536, 508-4th Ave. NE, TOK 1TO. (403-647-3851). **Rocky Mountain House**, Discovery Detectors, Box 1284, TOM 1TO. (403-845-3718).

BRITISH COLUMBIA:Vancouver, Diversified Electronics Ltd. 1104 Franklin St., V6A 1J6. (604-254-0761).

MANITOBA:Winnipeg, OK John Metal Detectors, Stn. F, Box 54, R2L 2A5. (204-667-6556).

NOVA SCOTIA:Halifax, Jim Reddon of Maritime Surplus Store Ltd., 5535 Young St., B3K 1Z7. (902-454-5718). **Wentworth Valley**, Parks & Recreation, Bob & Carol Hyslop, Station [illegible], B0M 1Z0. (902-548-2381).

ONTARIO:Hamilton, Steel City Detectors, 36 Maunde Deveau, 50 Brittania Ave., L8H 1W6. (416-549-3941). **North York & Toronto**, Sub-Mariners Metal Locators, 954 Wilson Ave., LOC 1K0. (416-630-2590). **Sault Ste. Marie**, Mid-Canada Salvage, 333 Wellington St E, P6A 2L8. (705-256-7259). **Stratford**, B. C. Enterprises, 193 Blake St., N5A 2C9. (519-273-0942). **Toronto**, The Midas Touch, 207 McRae Dr., M4G 1T4. (416-421-4249). **Waterford**, Canadian Metal Locators, Inc., RR #5, N0E 1Y0 (519-443-5193).

QUEBEC:LaSalle, Detecteur de Tresor Treasure Detectors, Box 324, Champlain, LaSalle, H8P 3J2. (514-769-9873).

SASKATCHEWAN:Yorkton, John Menken, 67 Darlington St. E., S3N 0C4. (306-783-8336).

AFRICA
SOUTH AFRICA:Durban, DECO, P.O. Box 37686, Overport 4067. (280-448).

FRANCE
PARIS, Detectronics, S.A.R.L., 99 rue Balard, 75015. (33-1554-4030).

GREAT BRITAIN & IRELAND
ENGLAND:London, Treasure World, 155 Robert St., NW 1 (01-387-3142) *Distributor and Service Center for UK.

GREECE
ATHENS, Lela Harisi, Alexandras Ave. 29, (64-10-631). **THESSALONIKI**, Kostas Karathanasis, 6 Egnatia St., (523-918).

ITALY
Livorna, A.R.I.S.A.S. VIA Ernesto Rossi 31, 57100. (050-32-405/0586-24-212) and VIA delle Galere, 24/26, 57100. (0586-34 557).

MEXICO
CALIFORNIA:San Diego, Gem & Treasure Hunting Assoc., 2493 San Diego Ave., 92110. (714-297-2672).

NEW ZEALAND
Auckland, New Zealand Metal Detectors Ltd, CPO Box 807. (733-592).

SWEDEN
Bromma, Redenholt Int'l AB, Box 20078, S-16120. (08-98-85-90).

THE NETHERLANDS
Amerongen, Treasure Hunters Supply, De Breelaan 13, (03434-54463).

VENEZUELA
CARACAS, Victor Alvarez, AV.Caroni, E. Dif. San Rafael, Bello Monte, (72-83-20).

WEST GERMANY
Dusseldorf, AS, KuhlwetterstraBe 28, Postfach 140106, D-4000, 14. (0211-626304).

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club news & EVENTS

IF YOU ARE PLANNING AN EVENT, SEND INFORMATION TO THE TREASURE CLUB EDITOR AT 6280 ADOBE ROAD, 29 PALMS, CA 92277. PLEASE HAVE ALL NOTICES IN AT LEAST THREE MONTHS PRIOR TO THE EVENT.

MAY

THE CENTRAL IOWA TREASURE HUNTERS CLUB will sponsor its 10th Annual hunt on May 31-June 1 at Thomas Mitchell Park, located 8 miles east of Des Moines, Iowa. For more information contact: Jim Schaaf, Chairman, 6024 Clark St., Des Moines, IA 50311.

THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF DOWSERS will sponsor a dowsing tour of various megalithic sites in Great Britain from May 26 to June 8 beginning at Heathrow Airport just outside of London. There is only room for 30 members. For more information contact: ASD Headquarters, Danville, Vermont 05828-0024; ph. (802) 684-3417.

THE INDIAN TERRITORY TREASURE HUNTERS CLUB will hold its 14th Annual Indian Territory Treasure Hunt on May 25-26. For more information contact: I.T.T.H.C. Inc., P.O. Box 580961, Tulsa, OK 74158.

THE NEW ENGLAND TREASURE FINDERS ASSOCIATION will hold its 13th Annual Treasure Hunt on May 25-26. For more information contact: N.E.T.F.A., P.O. Box 490, Agawam, MA 01001.

JUNE

THE CEDAR VALLEY TREASURE HUNTERS will sponsor their 13th Annual Open Hunt on June 21-22 at Pinicon Ridge Park in Central City, Iowa. For more information contact: Dick Ingels, 3221 Dairydale Court S.E., Cedar Rapids, IA 52403.

THE S.E.A.R.C.H. METAL RECOVERY CLUB is pleased to announce its 16th Annual State Championship Treasure Hunt on June 8-9 at Avoca Elementary School, 2440 Volunteer Pkwy., Bristol, Tennessee. For more information send a S.A.S.E. to Darrell Stike, Rt. 4 Box 246, Bluff City, TN 37618.

THE COLORADO METAL DETECTING AND PROSPECTING ASSOCIATION will hold its 1st Annual Open Treasure Hunt on June 2 at Canon City Rodeo Grounds, Canon City, Colorado. For more information contact: Mike or Ray at (303) 275-8296 or write to 311 Royal Gorge Boulevard, Canon City, CO 81212.

THE PIKES PEAK ADVENTURE LEAGUE will hold its 14th Annual Treasure Hunt on June 8-9. For more information contact: Pikes Peak Treasure Hunters, P.O. Box 7821, Colorado Springs, CO 80933, ph. (303) 635-8674.

THE CENTRAL TEXAS TREASURE CLUB will sponsor its 4th Annual Open Competition Treasure Hunt on June 22 at the Allen Ranch, south of Brownwood, Texas. For more information contact: C.T.T.C., P.O. Box 3117, Early, TX 76802.

THE NEBRASKALAND TREASURE HUNTERS (Lincoln) will sponsor their 2nd Annual Hunt on June 8-9. For more information contact: Doris Barkhurst, 7433 Aylesworth Ave., Lincoln, NE 68505.

THE SOUTHEASTERN HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION will hold its 11th Annual Southern Championship Treasure Hunt on June 21-23 at the Cross Country Campground in Denver, North Carolina. For more information contact: Carl Huffstickler, P.O. Box 30191, Charlotte, NC 28230.

THE RAINBOW'S END METAL DETECTORS are having their 4th Annual Treasure Hunt on June 23 at Parkdale Park, Hamilton. For more information contact: Mary Ann Edwards, R.R. 5, Waterford, Ontario, N0E 1Y0, Canada.

THE NATIONAL UTAH TOKEN SOCIETY will hold its 1st Annual Salt Lake City Coin & Token Show on June 1-2 at the Howard Johnson Motor Lodge, 122 West South Temple. For more information contact: Bob Campbell, 1123 East 2100 South, Salt Lake City, UT 84106, ph. (801) 467-8636.

THE NORTHWEST TREASURE HUNTERS CLUB will sponsor its 13th Annual Pacific Northwest Championship Treasure Hunt and Gold Panning Contest on June 15-16 at Riverside State Park, Spokane, Washington. For further information contact: Kay Silvrants, W. 3109 Houston, Spokane, WA 99208, ph. (509) 326-5765.

THE NEBRASKALAND TREASURE HUNTERS CLUB has set the date for its 12th Annual National Treasure Hunt on June 15-16 at the old ghost town site of Leroy, Nebraska. For more information contact: Nebraskaland Treasure Hunters Club, P.O. Box 128, Hastings, NE 68901.

THE HAWKEYE STATE COINSHOOTERS will host the 1st Annual HEART (Historical Educational Archaeological Research Team) International Treasure Hunt on June 7-9 at Wartburg College, Waverly, Iowa. For more information contact: Roland Langholz, Box 251, Waverly, IA 50677, ph. (319) 352-2942.

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(Continued on page 72)

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VOL. 11 NO. 7
VOL. 11 NO. 8
VOL. 11 NO. 9
VOL. 11 NO. 10
VOL. 11 NO. 11
VOL. 11 NO. 12

1981 VOL. 12
VOL. 12 NO. 1
VOL. 12 NO. 2
VOL. 12 NO. 3
VOL. 12 NO. 4
VOL. 12 NO. 5
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VOL. 12 NO. 7
VOL. 12 NO. 8
VOL. 12 NO. 9
VOL. 12 NO. 10
VOL. 12 NO. 11
VOL. 12 NO. 12

1982 VOL. 13
VOL. 13 NO. 1
VOL. 13 NO. 2
VOL. 13 NO. 3
VOL. 13 NO. 4
VOL. 13 NO. 5
VOL. 13 NO. 6
VOL. 13 NO. 7
VOL. 13 NO. 8
VOL. 13 NO. 9
VOL. 13 NO. 10
VOL. 13 NO. 11
VOL. 13 NO. 12

1983 VOL. 14
VOL. 14 NO. 1
VOL. 14 NO. 2
VOL. 14 NO. 3
VOL. 14 NO. 5
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VOL. 14 NO. 7
VOL. 14 NO. 8
VOL. 14 NO. 10

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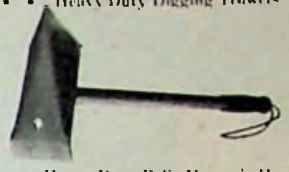

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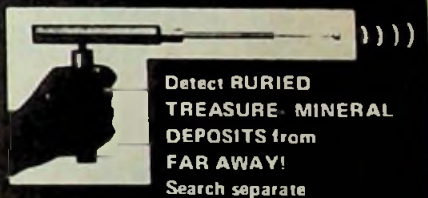

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73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80
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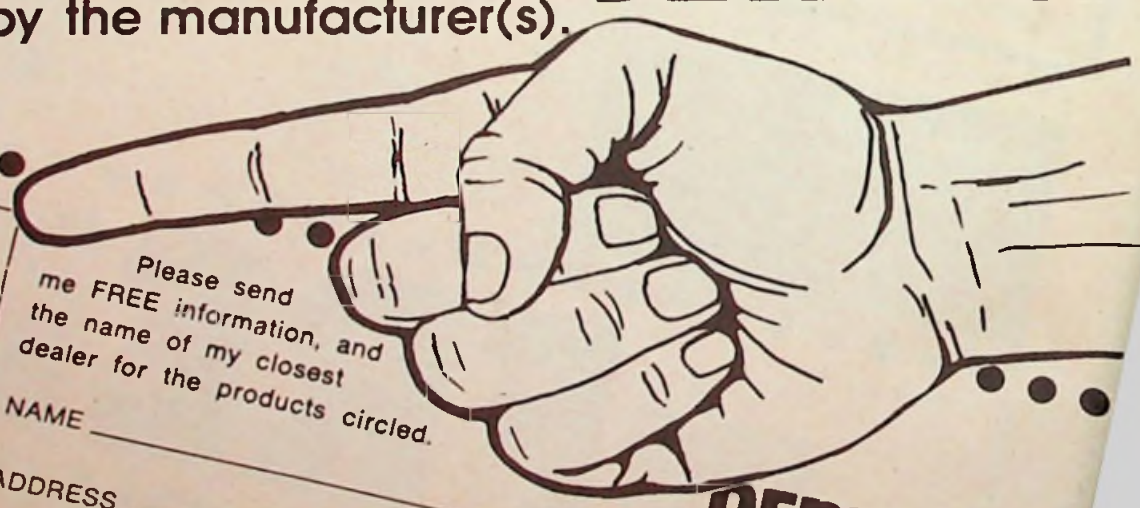

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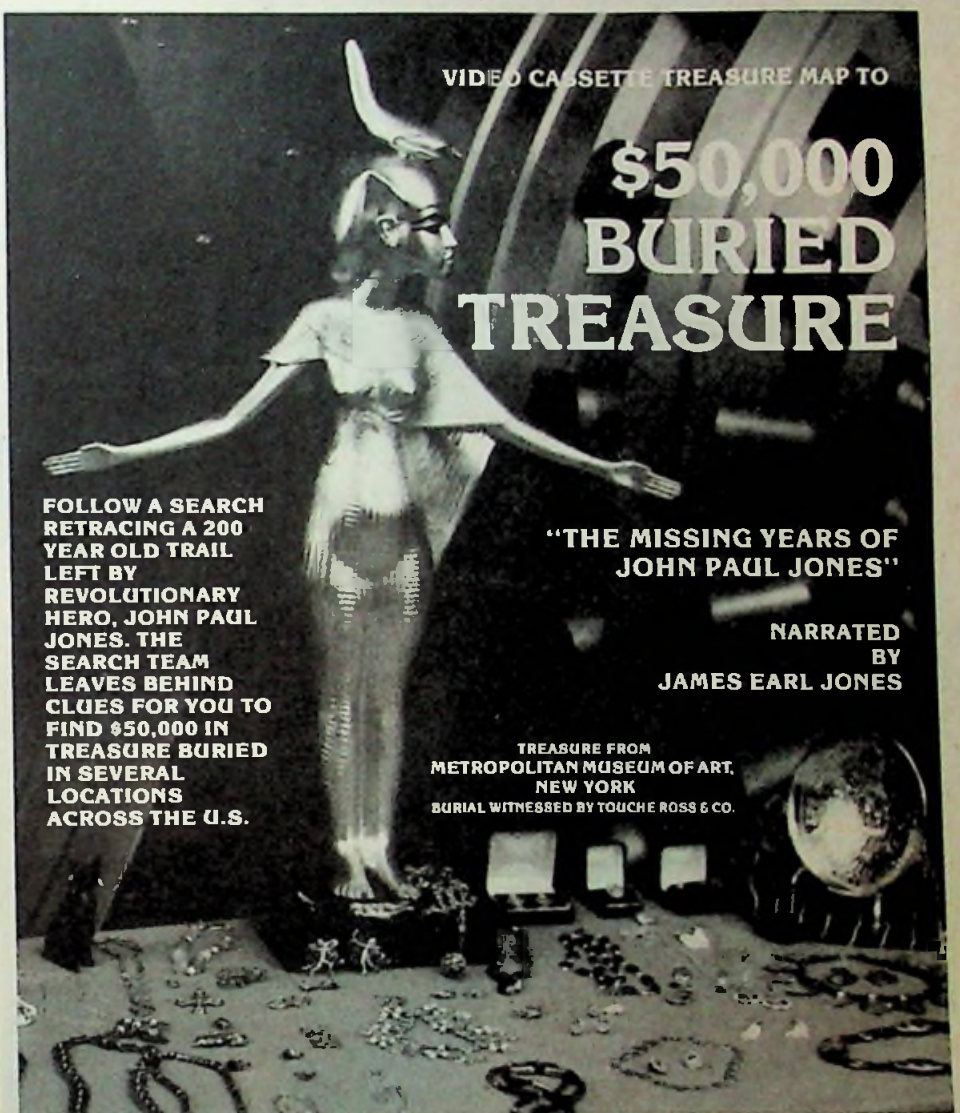
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By James Stegner

One artifact proved to be a solid silver statue of Mary and the Child.

About two-thirds of the religious medallions I've found have been silver, with the other third being bronze.

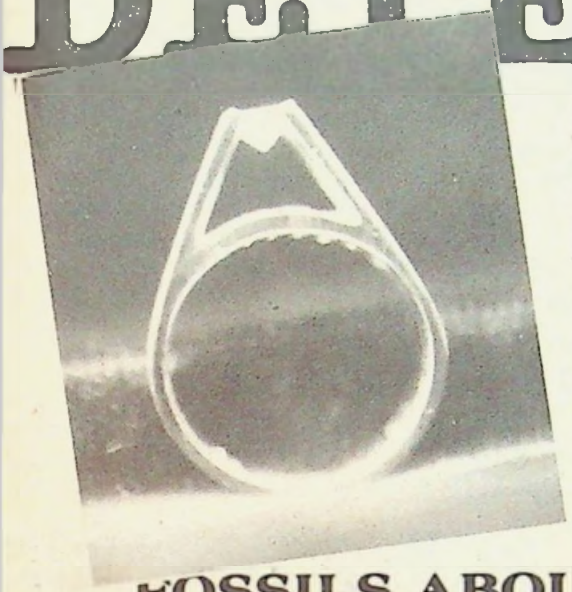
Have you ever imagined a site where "pieces of eight" might be recovered just by bending over and picking them up? How about adding a variety of Old and New World coins with dates ranging from the 18th century through present day?

If this doesn't stir your imagination, would you like to have thrown in gold and silver rings, sterling flatware, bracelets, or a variety of chains and medals? Still doesn't cover your chain of thought? Well, how about adding a whole range of 500-million-year-old fossils to this? Brachiopods, trilobites, carpoids, bryozoa, cystids are yours, just for the picking up!

Where, you ask, could there be such a spot except in your imagination? This "believe it or not" paradise can easily be found—it's along the slate-lined beaches of Lake Erie's southern shoreline.

Perhaps such a "paradise" extends to other beaches around the Great Lakes, if one were to investigate. However, I am only familiar with the area that lies between Buffalo, New York, and Erie, Pennsylvania. Almost any place along these Western New York beaches where you happen to find an outcropping of Silurian slate you will recover a wide variety of artifacts, such as I've mentioned. And there are many others besides—from various boat and ship fittings of brass to fishing gear to one, five and ten dollar bills lost amid the piles of driftwood that litter these beaches after a lake storm, no doubt blown overboard from the many pleasure craft that ply these waters. Also plentiful are those gnarled, weird-shaped pieces of driftwood, for lovers of such bric-a-brac, as well as a huge variety of sand-polished, beautifully colored stones of every hue and size for your aquarium or "pet rock" collection.

LAKES BEACH DETECTING



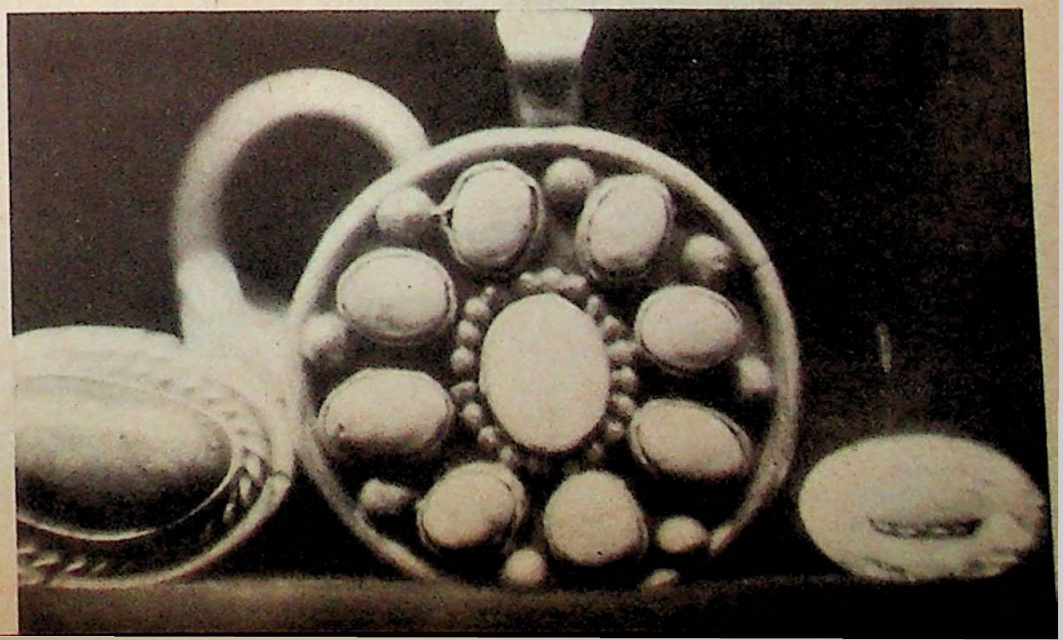
FOSSILS ABOUND ON THE BEACHES, AND SOME CAN BE SOLD FOR AS MUCH AS $75

This piece of Lake Erie slate is embedded with several kinds of marine fossils, including the strange creature in the center whose eyes and feelers remain visible.

The richness of the southern shores of Lake Erie, and of the other Great Lakes, is due in part to the many ships that have plied the lakes over the years and because of the relatively shallow waters. Lake storms, often unpredictable and violent, send many vessels to the bottom, where they quickly break up and scatter cargo everywhere. Through the years such cargo has reached the beaches in numerous ways, one of the strangest being by ice blocks. Freezing to the bottom in many places, the ice engulfs numerous artifacts, carrying them ashore during the spring "break up." While such artifacts can be carried and deposited to all parts of the lakes and beaches by this method, depending upon wind and wave action, of particular interest to treasure hunters are the special slate-bottomed "money beaches." These reach out into the lake, creating a smooth surface where all sorts of artifacts are swept and funneled beachward. Over the

Gold rings found have included wedding bands and those set with various precious stones, from jade and amethyst up to a one carat diamond.

Silver jewelry is often prevalent in the slate pot holes, including many turquoise pieces such as these.



Great coin finds can be of any age—from this 1788 Massachusetts cent (worth over $175) to an 1843 seated Liberty half dollar ($70) to a 1922 plain cent ($275).

Brass artifacts, such as locks and keys as well as ship fittings, can be brought from the very depths of the lake through blocks of ice.

years, these smooth slate bottoms have attracted countless bathers who also lose artifacts that will eventually reach the beach.

The shales that create money beaches were laid down by sediments from distant inland seas that inundated the area more than half a billion years ago. Fossils of the earliest marine creatures to appear on earth are trapped in these shales. Freed by constant wave action, they are swept onto the beaches in countless numbers. Such fossils as the trilobite may be sold, especially to stores and shops dealing in fossils or gem stones of the western states. Depending on their state of preservation, these fossils will bring from $30 to $75 each. Other types mentioned earlier have been selling from twenty-five cents to three dollars each at local flea markets and garage sales.

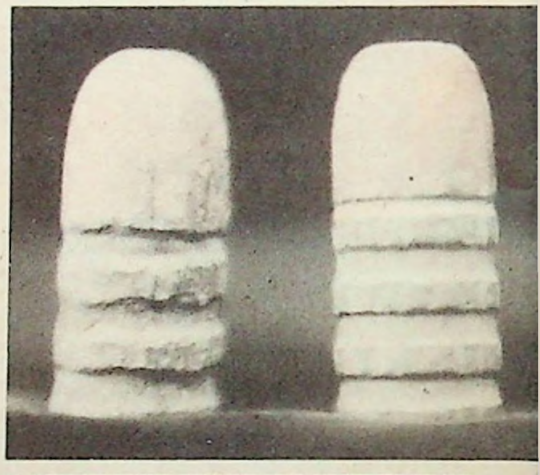
The best time of year to hunt these beaches would be late spring (late April through May) or during the fall season (October, November), as wave action is more prevalent during those periods. Throughout these seasons especially, Lake Erie is subject to "wind tides," which change the physical characteristics of slate beaches daily. One day you will find large stretches of slate exposed, but upon returning the following day, you may discover a foot of sand and small rocks covering the same area. Chances are, if you have the time to persist, the next day will once again be another "slate day" on the section of beach you have been working.

In areas where the slate bottom is exposed, you should confine your hunting efforts at a point where the water is washing away at the sand and rocks, as this is where most artifacts will be found. Look particularly for "pot holes" and small ledges along the slate bed, which act like gold pans in trapping such "goodies" as rings, coins, and a host of small artifacts. Also fossils that have become mineralized will be recovered here.

Although many of your finds will be "worn away" by the constant wave action, many others will not be if recovered from potholes. Fossils that can be pried from the slate, where

POT HOLES IN THE SLATE BED ACT LIKE GOLD PANS, TRAPPING HEAVIER ITEMS LIKE RINGS AND COINS

Coins, tokens, and other relics from the 1860s and earlier are not uncommon finds.



Remembrances of the 1930s have been found in the form of give-aways and other trinkets

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Artifacts can vary greatly in condition, depending upon how much "wave action" they've experienced.

exposed, will be in perfect condition most of the time.

If wind tides or wave action refuses to abate, there are always the grassy areas to the rear of the beaches. These are quite productive in coins, rings and other artifacts dating to the turn of the century. While such finds may not be so "romantic" as beach finds, they will certainly be in better condition.

All beach areas, those stretches of sand and slate between the water and the grassy spots, are "public" and may be hunted at any time. However, there are homes adjacent to some of these areas, and their privacy should be respected. If you aren't certain about a site, ask permission. I've never been refused to hunt any area. Finally, do not attempt to hunt these sites during the winter months (December through late March)—better conditions exist at the South Pole!

To reach some of these beaches from points east and west, take the New York State Thruway (I-90) to the area that lies between Buffalo, New York, and Erie, Pennsylvania. If from the east, exit at Hamburg, New York, and take Route 5 west—then look for beach signs. From the west, exit at Silver Creek or Angola and take Route 5 east. From the south, take Route I-79 or I-90 or any route leading to that area. Route 5 will bring you to Lake Shore Drive. Take this winding drive along the shoreline, and be on the lookout for those slate cliffs that reveal the presence of the slate-bottomed beaches, and an endless variety of treasure. □

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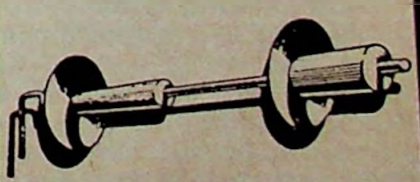

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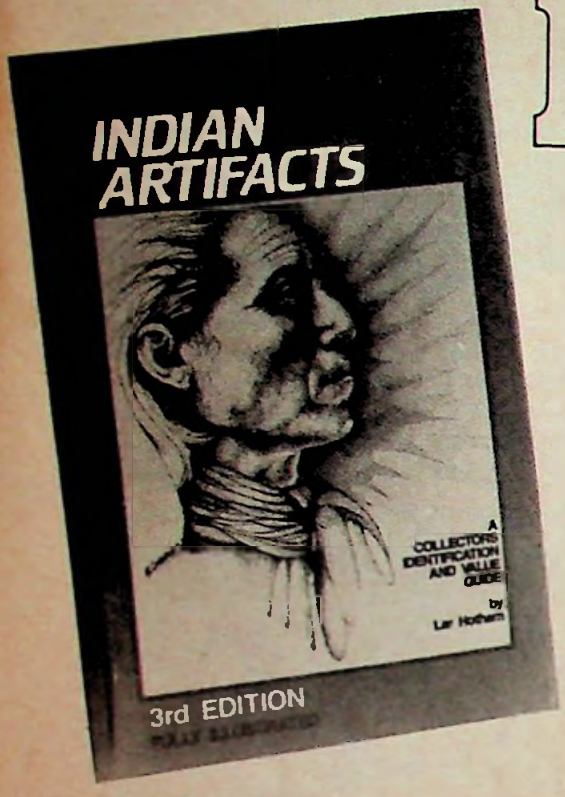


NORTH AMERICAN INDIAN ARTIFACTS

By Lar Hothem.

Published by Books Americana. Distributed by Charles Tuttle Co., Inc., P.O. Box 410, Rutland, Vermont 05701-0410. Soft cover, 5¼ by 8¼ inches, 426 pages, numerous B & W and color photographs. Price: $10.95.

This third edition of Hothem's "Collectors Identification and Value Guide" is extremely comprehensive, including many examples of common and rare artifacts. In 23 chapters, the book covers, among other things, arrowheads and projectile points, stone, copper, pottery and bead work, as well as clothing and jewelry ranging in age from prehistoric times to the present. There are chapters on Eskimo, Aleut and Alaskan artifacts, and helpful guides to agencies, businesses and publications on the subject.

Arrowheads and projectile points are the most collectible of Amerind artifacts because they exist all over North America, and many types are still very reasonably priced, putting such collections within the reach, physically and financially, of almost anyone. In contrast, most of the basketwork that exists, because of its perishable quality, has been made within the past two hundred years, rather than the past 20,000, and is not as plentiful. But whether a person has found a $2.50 or a $2,500 collector's item, he or she will find this book a useful guide.

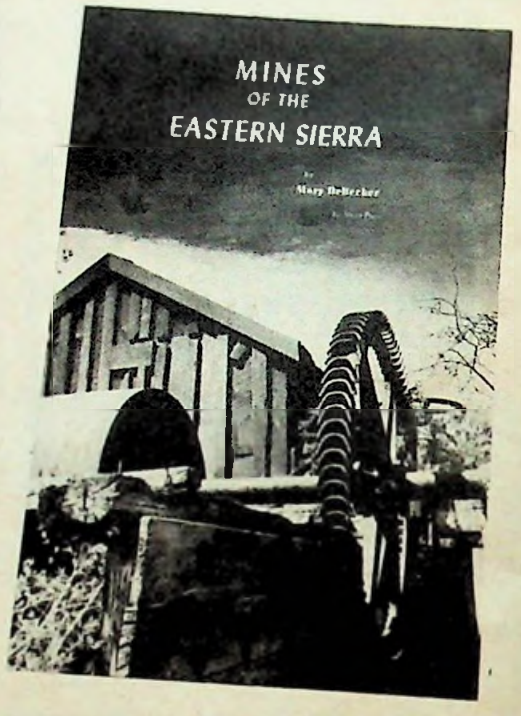
How useful? In the author's words, "A rancher finds a prehistoric flint artifact . . . sells it for $10 . . . . Later the rare Paleo-period fluted-base point is sold for $175." In another example, "A man at a Midwestern farm auction pays a few dollars for . . . 'an old hatchet' . . . . The collector who now owns the late 1700's pipe-tomahawk . . . has twice refused offers of $600 or over." After reading Hothem's guide, you would not be likely to overlook such finds.

MINES OF THE EASTERN SIERRA

By Mary DeDecker.

Published by La Siesta Press, Box 406, Glendale, CA 91209. Soft cover, 5½ by 8½ inches, 72 pages, maps, photos and sketches. Price: $2.95.

"The sight of an abandoned mine development creates an intense desire to know all about its moment of glory and what caused it to fail . . .," the author writes. She has satisfied this desire by exploring the eastern slopes of the Sierra Nevada and the arid stretches of the Inyo Mountains on foot and by jeep for many years. Her short, interesting history of mining in this area of California leads to more specific



information on a number of mines in Mono and Inyo Counties which the modern prospector and relic hunter would do well to explore.

Miners overlooked the rugged, inaccessbile area in the gold rush of 1849, but from 1857 on, mining activities flourished. Included are Cerro Gordo, the Comstock of California's eastern Sierra; Beveridge, the most important gold producing district in Inyo County; the Owens River Valley, a narrow, 100-mile corridor between two mountain ranges; and the Mammoth Lakes area; with its tales of the Lost Cement Mine and its red, cement-like ore with grains of gold "like raisins in a pudding."

As DeDecker writes, "This small book cannot cover all of the mines . . . but it is hoped it will furnish some background, guide the reader to a few new places and lead to happy hours of speculation . . . Be careful, be considerate—have fun!"

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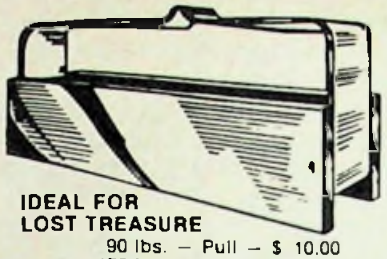

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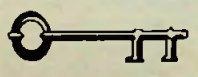

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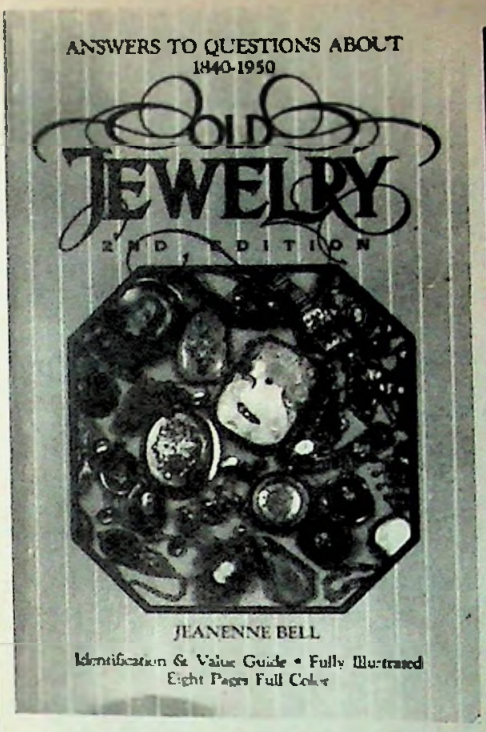

By Jeanenne Bell.
Published by Books Americana. Distributed by Charles E. Tuttle Co., Inc., P.O. Box 410, Rutland, Vermont 05701-0410. Soft cover, 5¼ by 8¼ inches, 390 pages, numerous B & W photos, some color photos. Price: $10.95.

The author, who is an avid antique jewelry collector and an active wholesaler and retailer, advises her readers to "collect jewelry you like and enjoy wearing. Then if it happens to appreciate in value (and it probably will) that is all the more reason to treasure it." Bell writes entertainingly of the era from 1840 to 1950, of Queen Victoria's Jubilee and America's 100th Anniversary, as well as providing a comprehensive guide to the jewelry of each period. Section I deals with the styles from Victoria and Albert (1840-60) through the modern era (1940-50s). Section II discusses the metals used in jewelry making—often a clue to questions about a particular piece. Section III contains helpful methods of answering the question, "Is it real?" She urges her readers to write her regarding their questions on jewelry.

A study of this book will increase the reader's appreciation of "that old locket, tie clasp or whatever" he or she has found, or which has been in the family for years, and of course will provide valuable identification and price guidance as well.

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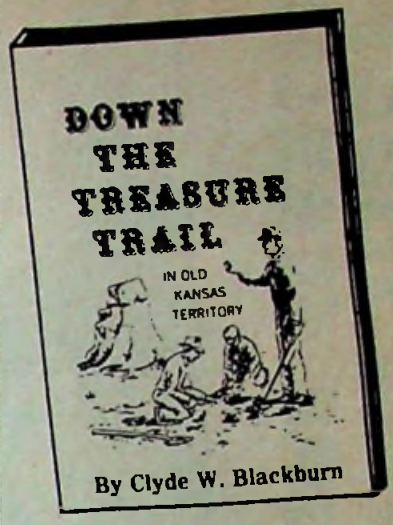

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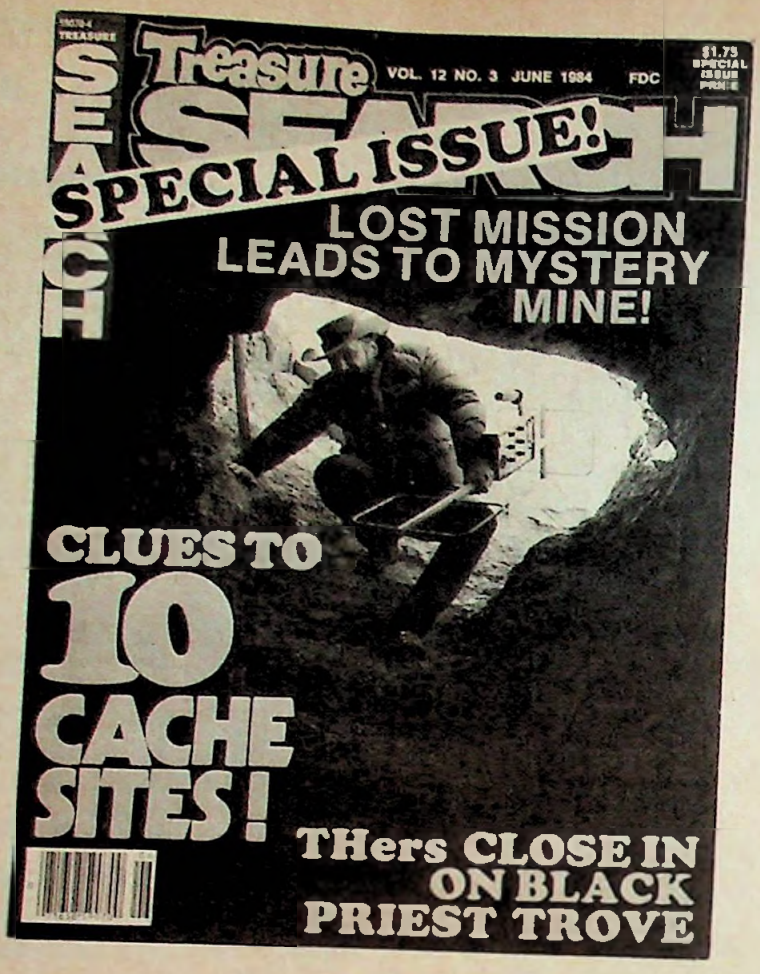
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discover some intriguing bits of information, including the Victorian fascination for hair—not just in lockets, but woven into earrings, bracelets, watch fobs and necklaces, so that a part of their loved ones would always be near. Queen Victoria carried the desire one step further and had a bracelet made from her children's baby teeth. Then there is the more romantic story of amber, one of the oldest gems known to man, worn by the ancients for protection against disease. It is simply fossilized tree resin. A section on trade marks and a glossary, with a selected bibliography, complete the book, a most readable and informative guide to jewelry "treasures."

CLUB NEWS & EVENTS

(Continued from page 59)

18-21 at the Ramada Inn Exhibit Hall, Sioux Falls, South Dakota. For more information contact: Ashton Wilson, Show Chairman, 1017 N. Waits Ave., Sioux Falls, SD 57104.

THE PUGET SOUND TREASURE HUNTERS CLUB invites you to its 14th Annual Treasure Hunt on July 20-21 at Fife High School, Tacoma, Washington. For more information contact: Larry Webb, P.O. Box 98206, Tacoma, WA 98499.

THE HOOSIER HILLS TREASURE HUNTERS CLUB will sponsor the 13th Annual Indiana Open Treasure Hunt on July 6-7 at Wray's Campground, RR#5, Seymour, Indiana. For more information contact: Ron David, 2211 W. 9th St., Anderson, IN 46011, ph. (317) 643-1121.

THE FOUR LAKES METAL DETECTOR CLUB announces its 1st Annual Treasure Hunt on July 20-21 in Madison, Wisconsin. For more information contact: Four Lakes Metal Detector Club, P.O. Box 3424, Madison, WI 53704.

THE 93rd ORANGE COUNTY FAIR will be held July 12-21 at the Orange County Fairgrounds in Costa Mesa, California. A number of special awards and contests will highlight the new gems and minerals exhibit. A metal detector treasure hunt will be held at 1:30 p.m. on Sunday, July 21. For more information contact: Kay Myers, Orange County Fair, 88 Fair Drive, Costa Mesa, CA 92626, ph. (714) 751-3247.

The 1st Annual Open Treasure Hunt, sponsored by TREASURE CHASERS, will take place July 20, 1985, in Wallkill, New York. For more information contact: Treasure Chasers, RD 1, Box 226A, Wallkill, NY 12589, or call (914) 895-3273.

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from page 23

DOODLEBUGGING

there is something buried there, you will not get a positive dowsing reaction if you try for a month. This is a very simple lesson you can experiment with at home. Also, the fact that the same results are achieved over and over again means only that the first response remains in the mind and is merely reproduced, even though it may be an erroneous reaction.

Uncertain thoughts are also a factor in cache dosing. Although a great deal of enjoyment can come from reading treasure stories, their main purpose is sometimes just to provide provocative reading. The Colonel gave the following comments on the success of dowsing when the search for a cache is based on a story.

"If one can only boil down the story to its exact and truthful history, the dowsing reaction will occur correctly and truthfully. I am quite confident that the failure to find various caches of gold or whatever is in the story. Even if the story is basically true, the contained facts may have been embellished and are not quite true in their context. Hence, the dowser is implanting false information, and the mind, being the complex thing that it is, will add its own help, so to speak, and suddenly you have a false indication.

"A tricky thing with dowsing is that, if your mind thinks that the lost cache or mine is a true fact, it is going to try and give you a location (any location) somewhere in the area mentioned in the story."

Most of the requests sent to "Doodlebugging" have been for lost caches or mines. Each request was based on a heard or read story. Hence there is a chance the story did not represent the exact and complete history of the treasure.

In addition, it is a rare exception that I hear from a reader after he or she receives a dowsing answer. Certainly, it would be useful in helping other readers to hear what positive or negative result came out of a particular map dowsing.

The advice of the Colonel is repeated. Find out the exact and complete history of the treasure, and map dowsing has a much better chance of being successful. □

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(Continued from page 24)

went looking for Tom Wally.

In his search, Nosser learned that Tom was in bad condition with asthma, and the local doctor was taking care of him. Tom Wally had been rushed to a hospital in Los Angeles. Nosser decided the matter could wait until Tom came back. However, six weeks later, still in hospital, Tom died.

Nosser wanted to follow up the matter of rich ore. Forty-odd pounds of the same rock had been found among Tom's belongings. The soft rock was almost held together with gold. He decided to look up Tom's partner, Lew Paleg, on the chance he knew where Tom had been prospecting. The morning Nosser planned to see Paleg, he found out that two men had fallen down a shaft. Nosser hurried to the spot, where he was told the two men had stepped onto an ore bucket, and the clutch didn't hold. They plunged 130 feet. Both were dead, and Nosser helped get their bodies out. One of them was Tom's partner—Lew Paleg.

With this lead gone, Nosser started to hunt on his own for the rich ore. That day in the assay shop, Tom had told him that the ore was in the form of float and that he found it outside company ground, five miles east of Fremont Peak and five miles south of Blackwater Well. After months of search with no result, Nosser told several of his friends, and a rush of mine hunters followed. None of them found a trace of Tom's trail. They did find a spot where Tom might have trenched to follow some float rock, but they found no other specimen of the rich yellow porphyry gold ore. ☐

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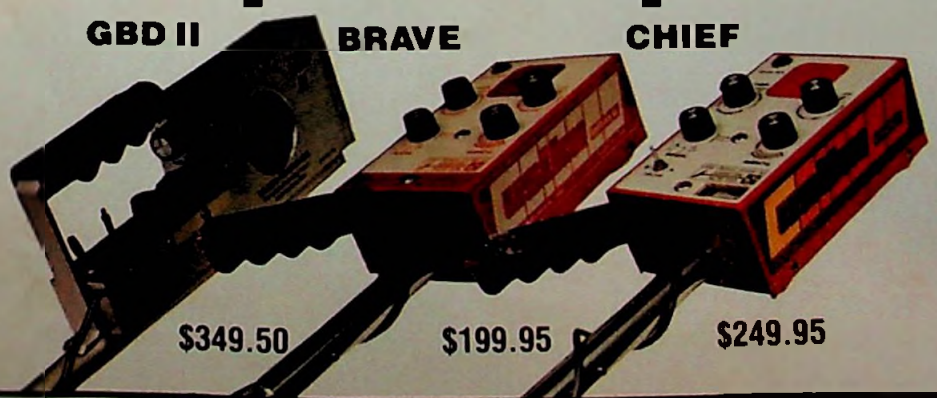

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